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CHELMSFORD

250TH ANNIVERSARY

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PRESENTED BY

J. A. Bartlett D. P. Byam H. L. Parkhurst Hubert Bearce J. E. Warren E. A. Bartlett
A. H. Sheldon H. S. Perham G. F. Snow

THE ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

Chelmsford, Massachusetts

Proceedings

at the Celebration of the

250th ANNIVERSARY

OF THE

Incorporation of the Town

May 28, 29, 30, 31

1905

Report of the Committee of Arrangements

F74
.C45C4

Selectmen of the Town of Chelmsford:

WALTER PERHAM, Chairman

R. WILSON DIX — JOHN J. DUNN

A. HEADY PARK — JAMES P. DUNIGAN

Town Clerk:

EDWARD J. ROBBINS

Town Treasurer:

ERVIN W. SWEETSER

Gift
Rev. Wilson Waters.
20 Aug '07

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The Anniversary Committee.

Seal of the Town of Chelmsford.

People coming from the Town Hall on Monday afternoon.

The Band Concert on the Common Wednesday morning.

Interior of the Pavilion at the beginning of the Banquet.

EDITOR'S INTRODUCTION.

TO commemorate an honorable past is wise and commendable. It is prudent and farseeing to preserve for future generations a record of such a proceeding. The celebration of two hundred and fifty years of corporate existence is an event not of such frequent occurrence as to be uninteresting, and when its features are felicitous in plan and faultless in execution, there is an especial reason for making the story a part of the records of the town which it chiefly concerns. The committee having in charge the celebration of the Quarter Millennial Anniversary of the Incorporation of the Town of Chelmsford may, therefore, justly feel some satisfaction in presenting their report, which, by the vote of the town, they are to make at the Annual Town Meeting of 1906.

There are occasions which, perhaps because of their merit and spirit, seem to be especially favored in their management and meteorological conditions. The celebration here reported was unusually happy in every particular. The old Town, clothed in the bright verdure of grass and foliage, presented a beautiful appearance. The weather was ideal. A night shower laid the dust and added to the sweet freshness of the springtime.

The machinery of the management moved like clockwork, everything on the programme came on at the appointed hour, and hundreds of home comers entered into the spirit of the occasion, and enjoyed it to the full. The celebration was not cheapened by advertising; the only notice sent abroad was contained in the individual invitations, and in the comments of the press. No fakir or vendor was allowed in the village: the streets, private lawns and public squares received special care; and all was done in a quiet, dignified manner worthy of the occasion.

The band concerts greatly enhanced the pleasure of those in attendance, and Chelmsford may well be pleased with the performance of her own musicians, and take satisfaction in the excellence which marked the rendition of the whole musical programme.

The ringing of the bells at sunrise and sunset was a pleasing feature, and thanks are due to the ringers who gave their services: Albert H. Davis, Fred A. Russell, Ira G. George, Edgar R. Parker, Charles J. Willsteed. Recognition should be made of the services of the librarians, Mr. C. H. Greenleaf and Mr. E. R. Clark, who kept the Adams Library open to visitors during the celebration. A register to receive the names of visitors was kept there.

The commendable care bestowed upon the streets by David Higgins, highway surveyor, should be mentioned.

Surprise has been expressed that a celebration on such an elaborate plan, and lasting four days, could be carried on successfully with such a small amount of money. It was made possible only by a careful consideration of every detail, and because the members of the various committees, with the cheerful co-operation of the townspeople generally, were willing to do a vast amount of work and receive no compensation other than the satisfaction brought them by the unqualified success of the celebration.

About 1200 invitations were sent out to former Chelmsford people or their descendants, going to five hundred towns, in forty-two states and two territories, showing how widely the sons and daughters of Chelmsford are scattered over the country.

The impression which visitors carried away with them was that the entire celebration was a delightful success, unmarred by a single untoward circumstance, and the wish was more than once expressed that it might have continued during seven days instead of four.

Many expressions of gratification were received from visitors after their return home. One writes from a distant city: "I thank you with other Chelmsford friends for much that I thor-

oughly enjoyed. Everything was in such perfect taste, so quietly self-respectful; and it is always so hard *not* to overdo." Another writes: "I enjoyed every moment while I was there. Chelmsford has a right to be proud, and you of the Committee are to be congratulated in sincerity for the splendid work so carefully planned and carried out. It was, indeed, a great thing, and the 250th anniversary will be a brilliant historic landmark."

It is with painful regret, in which the Editor shares, that the Anniversary Committee, at the moment of issuing this report, are called upon to record the death of their Secretary, Mr. Henry Spaulding Perham, whose ability and untiring activity contributed much to the character and success of Chelmsford's Quarter Millennial Celebration, not only in the Committee's preparation for the event, but also in the Historical Address embodied in this report. In the death of Mr. Perham, the town loses its Historian and one of its most prominent and valued citizens; and the members of the Committee mourn a personal friend, with whom they have been most pleasantly associated.

The Editor desires to express his thanks to those who have furthered his endeavors to compile for the Committee a complete report of the proceedings, and trusts that the result of his labor will meet with the approval of the Committee and of those who may read the report.

WILSON WATERS.

ACTION OF THE TOWN AND MEETINGS OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE.

At the annual town meeting held in 1904, "*Under Article* 8, 'Voted that a public observance be held in 1905, by the town, of the 250th anniversary of its incorporation, and that a committee be chosen to take the matter into consideration and report at a future meeting.' This committee, to report at a future meeting, was appointed upon nomination of Rev. Wilson Waters, as follows: Henry S. Perham, J. Adams Bartlett, Joseph E. Warren, Harry L. Parkhurst, Arthur H. Sheldon, Hubert Bearce, Daniel P. Byam, George F. Snow, Erastus A. Bartlett."

—*From the Town Records.*

This General Committee held twenty-four meetings prior to the celebration and three meetings after the event. The meetings were held at the Town Hall, the railway station and Bartlett & Dow's in Lowell. They were characterized by such interest, general harmony of sentiment and faithful activity, that successful arrangements were assured from the beginning. Differences of opinion in discussion gave way to the vote of the majority, and the plan of the celebration took shape in the early meetings of the committee.

The first meeting was held at the Selectmen's room, Town Hall, May 31, 1904, with Mr. Perham in the chair. J. Adams Bartlett was chosen chairman, and Henry S. Perham, secretary.

At the annual town meeting, March 27, 1905, the committee made a report, recommending that the celebration continue four days, viz., Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, May 28, 29, 30 and 31, 1905; and also presented a programme which was the same as that finally carried out.

At the annual town meeting in 1905, "*Under Article* 10, 'At the request of the anniversary committee to see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty-five hundred dollars ($2500) to defray the expense of the celebration of the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of its incorporation, which the town voted at its last annual meeting to hold,' Mr Henry

S. Perham, as chairman of the committee, stated that, upon reconsideration, the committee wished to ask that the sum of $1500 be substituted in the article in the place of $2500." The town voted to appropriate $1500. "Upon motion of Wilson Waters, it was voted that the same committee that was chosen last year to make arrangements for celebrating the 250th anniversary be the committee to have charge of the celebration, that they have power to appoint sub-committees to assist them, and that they shall receive all money, and pay all bills contracted by them and make their report to the next annual town meeting."

—*From the Town Records.*

At the meeting of the committee on March 28, 1905, it was voted that the organization of the committee remain as before, and that Joseph E. Warren act as treasurer. The land of L. K. Howard was selected as the most suitable spot for the tent. The owner, now a non-resident, generously made no charge for the use of his land. Being near at hand, the Central Congregational society thoughtfully offered their vestry as a waiting-room.

The committee's revised estimates were as follows:

For tent, including seats, tables and speakers' stand..	$ 350 00
Sunday services'.....	50 00
Historical exhibit	50 00
Monday, P. M., music.....	25 00
Children's entertainment, collation, music, transportation, etc.	300 00
Memorial Day (plus $100 voted by town).....	75 00
Decorations	300 00
Banquet, invited guests, guarantee	200 00
Banquet music	75 00
Printing	100 00
Police	25 00
	$1550 00

Several months before the celebration, the general committee suggested to the school committee that special attention be given to the study of local history. This was done, and the very

creditable work of the children was shown in the historical exhibit. It was voted that the Town Hall should be decorated inside and out; the Adams Library on the outside, and the speakers' stand in the tent. This was done by Young & Co., decorators, of Lowell.

The monument on the common, erected in 1859 to the memory of the Chelmsford men who gave their lives in the War of the Revolution, was also decorated with the national colors; and many private residences, as well as stores, were handsomely adorned with flags and bunting.

An information bureau was established in the building adjoining the post office, with Mr. Martin Robbins in charge. It was provided that there should be a restaurant opened in the lower part of the Town Hall. This was done by F. E. Harris of Lowell. Both of these proved to be of great convenience to many people.

The general committee desire to express their thanks to the officers of Troop F, for their kindness in allowing the use of their room in the Town Hall for the committee's headquarters. Also they thank the Police Board of Lowell for furnishing three officers without charge.

Chairmen of sub-committees were chosen as follows:

J. E. Warren, Children's Day.
H. S. Perham, Historical Exhibit.
H. S. Perham, Sunday Services.
J. A. Bartlett, Invitations and Guests.
E. A. Bartlett, Dinner and Collations.
J. A. Bartlett, Decorations, Tent, Music.
H. L. Parkhurst, Old Folks' Concert.
J. E. Warren, Hospitality.
J. A. Bartlett, Ball.
A. H. Sheldon, Entertainment and Reception of Guests.
H. S. Perham, Historic Spots.
H. L. Parkhurst, Printing.
H. S. Perham, Visitors' Excursions.

Assistants were appointed as follows:

Mr. Warren appointed these assistants on the Hospitality committee:

A. H. Sheldon, Wm. J. Quigley, Joseph A. Parkhurst, E. A. Bartlett, Frank C. Byam, E. W. Sweetser, C. E. Bartlett, L. J. Parkhurst, Dr. Amasa Howard.

Mr. Warren appointed these assistants on Children's entertainment:

COMMITTEE ON SPORTS.

Karl M. Perham, Ralph Adams, R. W. Emerson, A. H. Sheldon, 2nd, Fred Snow.

Mr. Sheldon appointed these assistants on the Entertainment and Reception committee:

Walter Perham, Chas. E. Bartlett, Capt. John J. Monahan, Lieut. Wm. J. Quigley, Geo. P. Mansfield, Wm. H. Shedd.

Mr. J. A. Bartlett appointed these assistants on the Ball committee:

Floor director, Harry L. Parkhurst; aids, Chas. E. Bartlett, W. A. Ingham, John B. Emerson, Josiah E. Marshall, Wm. H. Shedd, Paul Dutton, John C. Varney, John F. Shaw.

Mr. E. A. Bartlett appointed these assistants on the Dinner committee:

Harry L. Parkhurst, Joseph E. Warren, James P. Emerson, Daniel P. Byam, Henry S. Perham.

Mr. Perham appointed these assistants on the Historical committee:

Rev. Wilson Waters, Miss Martha E. Dadmun, Miss Martha E. Warren, Mrs. Nellie P. Parker, Mr. Edward L. Stearns, Miss Sarah L. Putnam, Miss Emma J. Gay, Mr. Fred L. Fletcher, Mrs. R. Wilson Dix, Miss Harriet M. Emerson, Mrs. G. Thomas Parkhurst, Mrs. Edwin R. Clark.

The general committee wore red badges with gilt lettering.

The historical committee wore light blue badges with black lettering.

The reception and entertainment committee wore white badges with blue lettering.

The committee on sports wore yellow badges with black lettering.

The committee on ball wore white badges with red lettering.

Edward Redmond was granted the exclusive privilege of selling souvenir badges, which were of red ribbon with gilt lettering and a pendant of metal and enamel, bearing the seal of the town of Chelmsford.

At the meeting of the general committee on August 1, the matter of printing a report of the proceedings at the celebration was discussed, and it was reported that Dr. Willard Parker of New York had offered to bear a part of the expense.

A committee consisting of H. S. Perham, Geo. F. Snow and Rev. Wilson Waters was chosen to consider the matter of publishing. On September 23rd, Mr. Waters reported for the committee an outline of the proposed volume; the report was accepted and the committee continued with full power to prepare and print the proceedings at the Celebration. The committee requested Mr. Waters to gather the material and edit the same.

Report of the Treasurer of the Anniversary Committee.

Your treasurer charges himself with money received as follows:

Sale of banquet tickets	$ 455	00
Sale of ball tickets	62	00
Net for care of clothing		20
Net on Old Folks' concert	85	56
For catering privilege	47	65
Of J. P. Emerson, quartermaster Chelmsford Veteran Association	62	95
Total	713	36
Of town treasurer	1,300	00
Making a total received of	$2,013	36

And is credited by cash paid as follows:

G. T. Parkhurst, printing Old Folks' concert tickets	1	50
G. T. Parkhurst, printing 15 badges, $1.00 and veterans' dinner tickets, $2.00	3	00
G. T. Parkhurst, printing programmes, etc.	34	68
G. T. Parkhurst, printing invitations, folders, etc.	4	45
G. T. Parkhurst, printing 1100 invitations, envelopes, etc.	20	45
G. T. Parkhurst, printing 100 singers' tickets	1	00
G. T. Parkhurst, printing 2000 programmes	16	50
G. T. Parkhurst, printing 1100 tickets	4	75
G. T. Parkhurst, printing 1000 Union service programmes, etc.	8	55
American Express Co.	1	00
Thorp & Martin Co., Blanks and labels	1	35
R. W. Emerson, P. M., Stamps	20	00
H. S. Perham, secretary's expenses	5	44
Geo. W. Foote, helper	7	40
Mrs. A. H. Davis, cleaning show cases, etc.	1	18
E. W. Kennan, baker		15
E. E. Hildreth, jumping poles	1	50
A. E. Adams, treasurer Chelmsford band	75	00
J. M. Missud, treasurer Salem Cadet band	204	25
Prof. F. O. Harrell	16	10
J. P. Emerson, moving chairs, etc.	2	50
S. A. Eliot, services and expenses	27	00
Amount carried forward	$457	75

Amount brought forward	$457 75
E. R. Marshall, 29 sign boards	8 85
J. S. Wotton, carrying singers, West Chelmsford to Chelmsford	2 00
A. G. Green, labor on cabinets, etc.	10 10
Adams orchestra	14 00
S. W. Parkhurst, cigars for guests on Wednesday	3 75
M. Steinert & Sons Co., use of piano	7 00
C. A. Aiken, special constable	9 00
F. E. Harris, catering, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday	263 50
B. & N. Street Railway Co., school children's tickets	25 45
Page Catering Co.	540 00
G. T. Parkhurst, printing Children's Day programmes	2 50
G. T. Parkhurst, printing box lunch tickets	1 25
G. T. Parkhurst, printing	1 00
G. T. Parkhurst, printing orders, programmes, etc.	31 25
A. W. Holt, building seats and tables in tent	170 00
F. W. Worthen, special constable	12 00
A. H. Slater, treasurer North Chelmsford band	75 00
Richardson Hotel, board and rooms for part of the Salem Cadet band	11 60
C. F. Young & Co., use of tent and decorating	215 00
C. F. Young & Co., decorating at North Chelmsford	20 00
Geo. B. Wright, elm tree and setting same	23 25
Hubert Bearce, music	8 52
Hubert Bearce, transporting singers, etc.	6 39
W. H. Hall, prizes for sports	20 50
M. C. Wilson, moving chairs, etc.	2 00
Making a total paid out of	$1,941 66
Cash in Traders' National bank	71 70
Total	$2,013 36

Respectfully submitted by

JOSEPH E. WARREN, Treasurer,
Chelmsford, August 1, 1905.

THE INVITATIONS.

The invitations were neatly designed, and printed in script, The invitations and the general programme bore this seal.

GENERAL INVITATION.

TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INCORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF CHELMSFORD.
1655–1905.

The Committee in charge of the Two Hundred and Fiftieth Anniversary of the Incorporation of the Town of Chelmsford sends greeting to all former residents of the Town and to all persons interested in its history and welfare, and requests their presence at the celebration of the Anniversary at Chelmsford Centre, May 28th, 29th, 30th and 31st, 1905.

The enclosed program will give in detail the events connected with the celebration. It is expected that His Excellency the Governor of the Commonwealth and many other distinguished guests, as well as many former residents of the Town, will be present and speak at the Banquet, Wednesday, May 31st.

All persons who may wish accommodation in the Town, either board or lodgings, can secure the same by addressing Mr. J. E. Warren, Chelmsford, Mass., chairman of the Committee on Hospitality. Persons desiring tickets for the Banquet can secure the same by addressing the Chairman of the General Committee on or before May 25th.

It is the hope of the Committee that this occasion will bring together many of the Sons and Daughters of the "Good Old Town of Chelmsford," and also all others who may be connected with it by any ties of relationship or interest. The Committee has endeavored to make the celebration

an occasion of interest to all, and, at the same time, one which shall do honor to the Town and be a source of pleasure to all who honor the Town by their presence. We hope you will endeavor to be present some part of the time, if not all, and help to make the occasion one of pleasant memories. We can assure you of a hearty WELCOME HOME.

J. Adams Bartlett, Chairman,
Henry S. Perham, Secretary,
J. E. Warren, Treasurer,
E. A. Bartlett,
Harry L. Parkhurst,
Hubert Bearce,
Arthur H. Sheldon,
Geo. F. Snow,
Daniel P. Byam.
General Committee.

GUEST'S INVITATION.

Two Hundred and Fiftieth Anniversary of the Incorporation of the Town of Chelmsford.
1655–1905.

The Town of Chelmsford requests the honor of your presence as its Guest at the Banquet on the occasion of the celebration of the Quarter Millennial Anniversary of the Incorporation of the Town, at Chelmsford Centre, Wednesday, May 31, 1905, at one o'clock, p. m.

J. Adams Bartlett,
Chairman of Committee of Arrangements.

Please reply to the Chairman of Committee.

GENERAL PROGRAMME.

1655-1905.

QUARTER MILLENNIAL ANNIVERSARY TOWN OF CHELMSFORD, MASS.
PROGRAMME, MAY 28, 29, 30, 31, 1905.

SUNDAY, MAY 28.

10.45 A. M.—RELIGIOUS SERVICES IN THE SEVERAL CHURCHES.

First Congregational (Unitarian),	Rev. A. D. K. Shurtleff
First Baptist, South Chelmsford,	Rev. C. W. Williams
Second Congregational, No. Chelmsford,	Rev. D. A. Hudson
Central Baptist,	Rev. C. H. Ellis
Methodist Episcopal, West Chelmsford,	Rev. C. M. Merrill
St. John's (Roman Catholic), No. Chelmsford,	Rev. Fr. E. T. Schofield
All Saints' (Episcopal),	Rev. Wilson Waters, Rector
Central Congregational,	Rev. A. F. Earnshaw

3 P. M.—UNION SERVICE, Pavilion

1	VOLUNTARY,—Gloria from 12th Mass	*Mozart*
2	INVOCATION,	Rev. C. H. Ellis
3	HYMN,	Rev. Fr. E. T. Schofield
4	RESPONSIVE READING,—24th Psalm,	Rev. C. W. Williams
5	CHORUS,—Festival Anthem,	*Buck*
6	SCRIPTURE READING,	Rev. Wilson Waters
7	CHORUS,—To Thee, O Country!	*Eichburg*
8	PRAYER,	Rev. A. F. Earnshaw
9	RESPONSE,	Ladies' Quartette
10	INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER,	Rev. D. A. Hudson
11	ADDRESS,—The Glory of the New England Town,	Rev. Samuel A. Eliot, D. D., Boston
12	HYMN,—America, Chorus and Congregation.	Rev. C. M. Merrill
13	BENEDICTION,	Rev. A. D. K. Shurtleff

Singing will be by chorus of 50 voices conducted by Mr. Hubert Bearce.

MONDAY, MAY 29.

SUNRISE.—RINGING OF BELLS.

10 A. M.—HISTORICAL EXHIBIT OPENED. Vestry, Unitarian Church. This will remain free to the public until 9 p. m., Wednesday.

10.30 A. M.—CONCERT ON COMMON, North Chelmsford Band,
Mr. Hubert Bearce, Conductor

2 P. M.—ANNIVERSARY EXERCISES. Town Hall

MUSIC, North Chelmsford Band

J. ADAMS BARTLETT, President of the day.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME, Walter Perham, Chairman of Selectmen

RESPONSE, Prof. Chas. F. Emerson, Dean of Dartmouth College

MUSIC,—Clarinet Solo.

ADDRESS,—The Town our Fathers Builded, Henry S. Perham

MUSIC, Band

SUNSET.—RINGING OF BELLS.

8 P. M.—CONCERT ON COMMON, Chelmsford Centre Band

CONCERT AT NORTH CHELMSFORD, North Chelmsford Band

8.15 P. M.—INFORMAL RECEPTION TO HOME COMERS, Town Hall

TUESDAY, MAY 30.

9 A. M.—MEMORIAL DAY EXERCISES.

Conducted by Veterans' Association, Francis Hutchinson, Commander

ADDRESS, Hon. Samuel L. Powers, of Newton

MUSIC, Chelmsford Centre Band,
Mr. G. Thomas Parkhurst, Conductor

CHILDREN'S DAY.

12 M.—COLLATION TO SCHOOL CHILDREN.

1 P. M.—CHILDREN'S ENTERTAINMENT.

Prof. F. O. Harrell, Magician and Entertainer

Followed by Sports, Games, etc.

MUSIC, Chelmsford Centre Band

8 P. M.—CONCERT, Town Hall

Songs of "Ye Olden Time" by 40 singers in ancient costume. Conducted by Mr. Arthur W. Allen, of Everett, assisted by the Chelmsford Orchestra.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 31.

SUNRISE.—RINGING OF BELLS.

9 A. M.—EXCURSIONS will be arranged for visitors to places of interest about the town.

10 A. M.—CONCERT ON COMMON, Salem Cadet Band

1 P. M.—BANQUET, Anniversary Pavilion

REV. WILSON WATERS, Chairman and Toastmaster.

His Excellency William L. Douglas, Governor of the Commonwealth, is expected, with other distinguished guests, to take part in the post-prandial speaking.

MUSIC, Salem Cadet Band

2 P. M.—The pavilion will be open to the public before the speaking.

8 P. M.—CONCERT AND RECEPTION, Town Hall

10 P. M.—ANNIVERSARY BALL.

Salem Cadet Orchestra, 8 pieces. Dancing till 2 a. m.

Tickets to Old Folks' Concert, Tuesday evening, 25 cents.

Tickets to Banquet, Wednesday, $1.00.

Tickets to Ball, admitting lady and gentleman, $2.00.

A restaurant in lower town hall, conducted by F. E. Harris of Lowell, will provide meals at all hours, at moderate prices.

J. ADAMS BARTLETT,
HENRY S. PERHAM,
JOSEPH E. WARREN,
HARRY L. PARKHURST,
GEO. F. SNOW,
ARTHUR H. SHELDON,
HUBERT BEARCE,
ERASTUS A. BARTLETT,
DANIEL P. BYAM,
Committee of Arrangements.

SUNDAY.

The opening day of the Celebration was an ideal Sunday, and large numbers attended the various places of worship. The services were of peculiar interest, and from every pulpit were heard earnest words relating to the historic occasion and its significance. The G. A. R. veterans of Chelmsford attended All Saints' Church in a body. The sermons were as follows:

First Congregational (Unitarian). Founded in 1655.
Sermon by the pastor, Rev. A. D. K. Shurtleff.
Text: *The place whereon thou standest is holy ground.*—Exodus 3: 5.
Subject: The Glory of the Past and the Glory of the Future.

First Baptist, South Chelmsford. Founded in 1771.
Sermon by the pastor, Rev. C. W. Williams.
Text: *But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.*—II Peter, 3: 8.
Subject: God's Relation to Time.

Second Congregational, North Chelmsford. Founded in 1824.
Sermon by the pastor, Rev. D. A. Hudson.
Text: *Remove not the ancient landmark which thy fathers have set.* Proverbs, 22: 28.
Subject: The Ecclesiastical History of the Town.

Central Baptist. Founded in 1847.
Sermon by the pastor, Rev. C. H. Ellis.
Text: *Remove not the ancient landmark which thy fathers have set*—Proverbs, 22: 28.
Subject: Removing the Old Landmarks.

Methodist Episcopal, West Chelmsford. Founded in 1848.
Sermon by the pastor, Rev. C. M. Merrill.
Text: *For our citizenship is in heaven, from whence also we look for a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ.*—Philippians, 3: 20. R. V.
Subject: Citizenship.

St. John's (Roman Catholic) North Chelmsford. Founded in 1860.
Sermon by the rector, Rev. E. T. Schofield.
Text: The Gospel for the day, St. John, 16: 23–30.
Subject of preliminary remarks: Then and Now.

All Saints' (Episcopal). Founded in 1867.

Sermon by the rector, Rev. Wilson Waters.

Text: *And David said unto Achish, If I have now found grace in thine eyes, let them give me a place in some town in the country, that I may dwell there.*—1 Samuel, 27: 5.

Subject: The Country Town as a Factor in the National Life.

Central Congregational. Founded in 1876.

Sermon by the pastor, Rev. A. F. Earnshaw.

Text: *But thou shalt remember the Lord thy God; for it is He that giveth thee power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day.*—Deuteronomy, 8: 18.

Subject: The Message of Puritanism.

Union Service in the Pavilion.

PROGRAMME.

1 Voluntary.—Gloria from 12th Mass. . . . . *Mozart*

2 Invocation. . . . . .

Rev. C. H. Ellis.

3 Hymn.—God Bless our Native Land! . . . . . .

Rev. Fr. E. T. Schofield.

Chorus and Congregation.

God bless our native land!
Firm may she ever stand
  Through storm and night!
When the wild tempests rave,
Ruler of wind and wave,
Do thou our country save,
  By thy great might!

For her our prayers shall be,
Our fathers' God, to thee,
  On thee we wait!
Be her walls Holiness;
Her rulers, Righteousness;
Her officers be Peace;
  God save the State.

Lord of all truth and right,
In whom alone is might,
  On thee we call!
Give us prosperity;
Give us true liberty;
May all the oppressed go free;
  God save us all!

4 Responsive Reading.—24th Psalm.
Rev. C. W. Williams.

The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.

For he hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods.

Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? or who shall stand in his holy place?

He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.

He shall receive the blessing from the Lord, and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

This is the generation of them that seek him, that seek thy face, O Jacob.

Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.

Who is this King of glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle.

Lift up your heads, O ye gates; even lift them up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.

Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.

5 Chorus.—Festival Anthem . . . . . *Buck*

6 Scripture Reading . . . . . .
Rev. Wilson Waters.

7 Chorus.—To Thee, O Country! . . . . . *Eichburg*

8 Prayer . . . . . .
Rev. A. F. Earnshaw.

9 Response . . . . . .
Ladies' Quartette.

10 Introduction of Speaker . . . . . .
Rev. D. A. Hudson.

11 Address.—The Glory of the New England Town . . .
Rev. Samuel A. Eliot, D. D., of Boston.

12 Hymn.—America . . . . . .

Rev. C. M. Merrill.

Chorus and Congregation.

My country, 'tis of thee,
Sweet land of liberty,—
  Of thee I sing:
Land where my fathers died,
Land of the pilgrims' pride,
From every mountain side
  Let freedom ring!

Let music swell the breeze,
And ring from all the trees
  Sweet freedom's song!
Let mortal tongues awake;
Let all that breathe partake;
Let rocks their silence break,—
  The sound prolong!

My native country, thee,—
Land of the noble free,—
  Thy name I love:
I love thy rocks and rills,
Thy woods and templed hills;
My heart with rapture thrills
  Like that above.

Our fathers' God, to thee,
Author of liberty,—
  To thee we sing:
Long may our land be bright
With freedom's holy light;
Protect us by thy might,
  Great God, our King.

13 Benediction . . . . . .

Rev. A. D. K. Shurtleff.

The Afternoon Service in the Pavilion.

With a warm sun and cloudless sky, the people, nearly two thousand in number, including many home-comers and friends from surrounding towns, assembled in the pavilion. On the raised platform, on the south side of the great tent, were seated the ministers of the town, the speaker of the day, and a chorus of about 100 voices, under the direction of Mr. Hubert Bearce, which did excellent service. The music was grand and inspiring. The Ladies' Quartette consisted of Mrs. Hubert Bearce, Mrs. A. M. Warren, Mrs. C. E. Bartlett and Mrs. Wm. C. Ward.

Sopranos—

Mrs. Hubert Bearce, Miss Belle E. Smith, Mrs. Harry J. Maguire, Mrs. Henry Woods, Miss Ethel Wotton, Miss Josephine McCabe, Miss Ethel Noyes, Miss Florence Shaw, Miss Maud M. Young, Miss Florence Queen, Mrs. Harry C. Trombly, Mrs. Viola Mitchell, Miss Lizzie Draper, Miss Anna Mackay, Miss Addie Hyde, Miss Ella Gale, Miss Eva Lombard, Miss Georgia Story, Miss Rose Wright, Miss Hattie Hall, Mrs. David Billson, Miss Emma Brown, Mrs. Oscar Naylor, Mrs. Arthur H. Slater, Mrs. J. S. Byam, Miss Carrie Elliot, Mrs. E. T. Adams, Mrs. A. M. Warren, Miss Madge Ashworth, Mrs. H. H. Rice, Mrs. Amasa Howard, Miss Emma J. Perham, Miss M. E. Warren, Miss Abbie Ford, Mrs. W. F. Putney, Mrs, J. H. Parker, Miss Harriet M. Emerson, Miss Nora H. Brooke, Miss Areminta V. Paasche, Miss Alice Gould, Miss Belle Adams, Miss Marian Adams, Mrs. J. H. Wilson, Mrs. E. F. Parkhurst, Mrs. H. L. Parkhurst, Mrs. Francis Day.

Altos—

Mrs. Will E. Blakeslee, Mrs. C. F. Scribner, Miss Florence Bearce, Miss Marian Scribner, Miss Clara McCoy, Miss Lizzie Larkin, Miss Elizabeth Thorne, Mrs. Grace Smith, Mrs. John Toye, Mrs. William C. Ward, Miss Alice M. Stearns, Mrs. Walter Perham, Miss Emma M. Paasche, Mrs. Chapman, Mrs. Nellie P. Parker, Mrs. David George, Mrs. J. E. Osterhout, Miss Florence Feindel, Mrs. C. E. Bartlett.

Tenors—

Hubert Bearce, Carl Noyes, Joseph Marshall, Henry McCoy, Albert C. Mitchell, Peter Pickens, James P. Quigley, Edward L. Stearns, Edward J. Robbins, Harry L. Parkhurst, Arthur M. Warren, J. S. Byam.

Basses—

Harry C. Trombly, John Shaw, Stewart Mackay, Henry J. Maguire, John A. Kendrick, Carl Smith, David Billson, James Reid, H. H. Rice, Ralph Adams, William Adams, E. B. Emerson, William C. Ward, E. T. Adams.

Karl M. Perham and Charles Holt acted as ushers.

The first hymn was read by Rev. Joseph Aubrey Chase, of Brooklyn, a former pastor of the First Congregational Society, in place of Fr. Schofield, who could not be present. The invocation and prayer, and all other parts of the service, were excellent and appropriate. The portions of Scripture read were the first eight verses of the Forty-fourth Psalm, and Zechariah 8: 1–8, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22.

Rev. Mr. Hudson, in introducing Dr. Eliot, referred to the religious character of the first settlers, and to the fact that, for more than 100 years, there was but one religious society and one place of worship, mentioning also that the speaker of the day bore the name of one (the Rev. John Eliot) who preached to the Indians in this vicinity 250 years ago.

REV. DR. ELIOT'S ADDRESS.

"Words pass as wind, but where great deeds were done
A power abides transfused from sire to son."

So sings the great poet of New England. We are here to seek the secret of that power, and to enter into its prophetic strength.

This celebration is not instituted merely to nourish local pride or to make complaisant record of the deeds of our forefathers. We want to lift up the clear light of past experience, that it may shine not only on the road already travelled, but also on paths as yet untrod. In recalling the aims and achievements of the forefathers, we learn what manner of people we should be.

Were such celebrations a matter of mere ceremonial observance, their multiplication would be idle and oppressive. But they are no lifeless and formal events, but instinct with significance. They furnish the occasion for just tributes to the memory of brave men and women, and for the enlargement of our knowledge of the historic and romantic associations of familiar scenes. They remind us that there is something worthy of commemoration in the history of New England, and they upbuild an enlightened patriotism.

Every farmer here knows that he must sometimes dig round the roots if he would have his trees bear rich fruit. So the time and money spent in this celebration, this digging among the memories of two hundred and fifty years, is not for a passing holiday merely, but that our lives may make new growth and bear more abundant fruit in the years that are to come.

An interest in the lives and characters and exploits of our ancestors is natural and just. It is not only pardonable, but it is our plain duty to indulge it. Let reverence and affection rescue the names and deeds of the fathers of this town from forgetfulness. Let a triumphant posterity exult in the days of small beginnings, and celebrate the heritage of blessings which it is ours to enjoy and to faithfully transmit. Even if it be true, as doubtless it is, that only a small proportion of this assembly can trace descent from the original inhabitants, even if most of us come from other towns or other lands, it will do us good to discover what manner of men they were who planted Chelmsford.

Local history is the root of national history. Our national history has, indeed, its own wonderful and widespread pattern and design, which can be seen and appreciated only when set before us upon an ample scale; but the detail of the pattern, and the individual threads of the fabric, are to be found in local, family, village history. There are the dyes that give color to the story. There are the touches of reality that give human interest to the record. The warp and woof of history are in the daily doings of average people, in the loves and courtships and married devotion that we can read between the lines of every family genealogy, in the hardy industry that cleared the forests and built the stone walls and dug wells and laid out roads and raised dwellings, in the eager cravings that founded schools and churches. Therefore it is that we can best trace the record of the nation that we love, and enter into the secrets of her growth and stability when we survey the history of just such a typical New England town as Chelmsford.

The glory of the state is not in the number of bushels of wheat it raises or tons of coal it mines or miles of railroad track it lays, but in the type of character it produces, the standard of intelligence it upholds, and the best personality it develops. It is only when a state or a community adapts its institutions to the development of true manhood in its citizens —it is only then that it begins to make enduring history, and that the world begins to read it and draw life from it.

"The value of a nation," said Lowell, "is weighed in scales more delicate than the balance of trade. On the map, you can cover Athens with a pin-point, and Judea with the finger-tip, yet in those insignificant places the impulses have been given which have not ceased to direct civilization."

We rejoice, indeed, in the energy that overcomes the brute forces of nature, that plows the prairies, that disembowels the earth, that harnesses the torrent to its wheels, that rivets state to state with bands of steel, that bids us converse with distant lands in electric whispers. These achievements stir our just pride, but the boast of our generation ought to be not in what our people get, so much as in what they are. Our patriotism ought to take supremest satisfaction not in the visible prosperity

our land enjoys, but in the moral forces that make that prosperity possible; not in the consequences, but in the causes. Good is the satisfaction we take in the busy whir of mill and factory, in the spread of commerce, in output of field and mine; but a truer justification for our rejoicing is in the quality and strength of American manhood and womanhood.

New England has had her brilliant scholars, her great statesmen, her philosophers, artists, emancipators, soldiers, law-givers, and they have lent undying lustre to our nation. But the qualities that have made New England are the qualities of the common people. Her ideal citizen is not an exceptional genius, but a plain, straight-forward, law-abiding, liberty-loving man, a man with healthy conscience and a cheerful determination to do his duty in every walk of life.

The story is told of a visitor from the fertile West, driving over our hills and wondering how people could wrestle a living out of such a stony soil. Finally, he pulled up where a farmer stood at his pasture gate, and said, "Friend, will you tell me what possible crop you can raise on a farm like that?" "Stranger," it was answered him, "we raise men."

It has been well said that "God sifted a whole nation that He might send choice grain over into this wilderness." There is no doubt that the people who planted this town were sprung from a good stock. The good blood here, however, was not concentrated in a few families or individuals. The people who settled Chelmsford were very much on the same level of material prosperity, intelligence, and social standing, and we may be sure that a community of good men and women on the level of our common humanity is a better start for a new civilization than one composed of a few families lifted into prominence and the majority left in ignorance. The customs of common folk, which to some minds seem the antithesis of progress, are revealed as the essentials of progress. An hereditary drill made possible peace, liberty and prosperity.

The traits of the New England character that have proved the dynamic of national progress have been abundantly illustrated in the history of this town. Certainly the first was enterprise and pioneer pluck. It took an immense amount of grit to plant this community. There were no highways when our fathers came here, and they built their homes in such clearings as they could make along the water courses or among the woods. The sound of the axe rang bravely through the forest, and gradually, the Indian trail was converted into a road, and the tangled vales and uplands slowly, by dint of patient toil, became pastures. The motto of the forefathers was, "What ought to be done, can be done."

These people were extraordinarily industrious and thrifty. No eight hour law for them—they worked fourteen hours a day, and for recreation laid stone walls. The laws of service had no exception. If there were superior families here, they were probably simply the hardest working

men and women in the community—their superiority was not gauged by money, that is, but by efficiency. They lived sparingly and ecomomically, but the characteristic element in their thrift was that they saved on the lower side of life to invest on the upper side of life. The money saved was put into church and school or to send a boy to college. These people, by their tireless industry and careful economy, laid the foundation of the industrial superiority of New England.

Shall we not, too, remember how cultivating this soil, the soil in turn cultivated this good stock? The strength of the stumps our fathers pulled out of the swamps, and the weight of the stones they piled into walls, went not only into their arms and backs, but into their characters. Every blow struck in making a better road and a better bridge was a blow struck in making a better citizen.

Our forefathers were a self-restrained people. They were not given to loud protestations or boasts of what they were going to perform. They rested on their accomplishments. They practised a sublime prudence. Their strength was controlled and equalized, not subject to sudden ecstasies, not followed by reactions. Theirs was a sobriety of nature that delivered them from irregular and interrupted impulses. Violence and excitement were to them only signs of weakness. Exaggeration was a sign of lack of real conviction. Theirs was the self-control that is the essence of heroism.

They were a marvellously persistent folk, and were not weary in well-doing, not disturbed by difficulties, not terrified by dangers, not chilled by neglect. They were never ready to submit to smooth compromises. When they had chosen their part and place, they were ready to abide by it. Their fortitude upbore them calmly, without passion or excitement, through a host of trials. They illustrated the saying, "Greater is he that ruleth his own spirit, than he that taketh a city." The fire of their zeal was not fed by the stubble of popular applause, but from their own souls, and so was unquenchable.

The social life of our ancestors has often been misconstrued. We are apt to think that the early life of New England was cold and rigid and bloodless, but our forefathers were men of warm human nature, and as full of passions and ambitions and affections as we are today. The pressure of the great wilderness around them, and of common dangers and enterprises really brought them very near together, and we may be sure that the social intercourses of Sundays and town meetings helped to shape the character of these peoples, and to build up these citizens in a living community. In spite, too, of their Puritan sternness, our forefathers were not without mother wit. Yankee shrewdness found outlet in many a sally and repartee that went the round of the community. A mean man must have been very uncomfortable in the early atmosphere of this town.

The mean man was one who did not stand up squarely to his agreements or to his share in the support of good institutions. This spirit still lives, and Yankee humor is still a marked characteristic of our population.

We should note, too, that the intelligence and stability and prosperity of New England are in no small degree the result of our form of local political organization. When President John Adams was asked to mention the principal cause of the decision to resist oppression in arms, he answered: "The town organizations of New England. It was in these assemblies that the sentiments of the people were formed and their resolutions were taken." This testimony is confirmed by the judgment of all reflecting men. Every New England town has been a nursery of freedom, and the people's great school of citizenship. It has bred in men the power to do their own thinking, accustomed them to the exercise of civil rights, and breathed into them the spirit to maintain and defend them. Town meeting was and is a little parliament, and a trained watchfulness over local interests was and is the best preparation for efficient service in the broader spheres of the commonwealth and country. The ballot creates in the holder of it self-respect and consciousness of power. Each voter learns to respect his own manhood and to submit to the will of the majority. Out of this model in miniature was afterwards carved the grandeur of the republic. So long as New England would keep its glory, and American liberty its oldest and surest embodiment, we should honor and preserve our town organizations.

But the dynamic of all this industry and persistence and public spirit was in the religion of New England. Religion was the centre of old New England life, and it is impossible to understand the sturdy heroism of our fathers, without remembering that, whether they ate or drank or plowed or prayed, they did all to the glory of God. It was a religious affinity that selected the seed and sifted the material for the settlement of New England. It was not the conservative or the weak or the mercenary, but the bravest, strongest, most progressive souls that dared to break from the bonds of the past to encounter the opposition of an established church, and launch out on the sea of untried adventure.

The religion of our forefathers failed in the virtues of charity and gentleness, but excelled in the virtues of honesty, self-denial, and earnestness. It imparted to its adherents exactly those qualities which are needed at the foundation of the commonwealth: sobriety, thoughtfulness, obedience to law, regard for the public good, and, best of all, a real moral fibre. Even its sternness and intolerance had their vital uses in a pioneer community. They were the rough bark and sharp burrs with which to keep the nut of the new civilization ripe. The old faiths and systems have now passed away, but we may well rejoice that, as under the beauty and fertility of this town there is a layer of hard granite, so under the happier faith of today, there is the rugged tenacity of Puritanism.

I venture to believe that the puritan still lives in New England. Still is New England the mother of men—men little given indeed to the expression of their feelings, sometimes careless of the outward grace of life,—but resourceful, self-reliant, public-spirited. When a vulgar materialism seems to overwhelm us, remember the homeliness and simplicity of our John A. Andrew or Hannibal Hamlin, and the thousands of New Englanders, who, following the example of the fathers, have, of choice, sought plain living and high thinking. When cowardice holds our political life in its grip and bids so many of our public men speak only conventional and timid sophistries, then remember Charles Sumner, George William Curtis and William E. Russell. When literature grows feeble, and scandalous gossip of a great city seems to be all the intellectual stimulus the people can stand, then remember the pure fire of Whittier, the sparkle of Holmes, the insight of Emerson, the imperial uplift of Lowell. When religion seems to grow corrupt,—on the one hand a clamor of empty noise, on the other hand a formal routine,—then remember the spiritual vision of Channing, the manly intensity of Phillips Brooks.

Shall not a rebirth of the old Puritan spirit rouse our moral courage and restore our optimism? As the American manhood of past generations cleared the wilderness and planted here a free state, so it is the part of American manhood today, not only to defend the state from ancient forms of tyranny without, but from the equally degrading forms of tyranny which may arise within, that we may be delivered not merely from oppressions exercised by king and church, but also from that modern form of oppression which confronts us—the tyranny of bewildered and misled majorities. Surely there never was a time when we needed more a renewal of New England idealism. We need in our business morals a stronger sense of obligation. We need in our home life a renewed simplicity. We need in our religion a revival of responsibility. It is the Puritan calling to us across the centuries, and summoning us to the re-adjustment of the present with the past. No complacent self-glorification will help our greatness in the smallest degree. Boasting is a thoroughly provincial habit. No manifest destiny will save us. New emergencies have got to be met, just as the old evils have been met in this country hitherto, by thoughtful courage and by resolute vigilance, by upholding a high standard of patriotism and pointing to the vision of ideal honor without which the people perish. Patriotism is a firm but delicate sentiment. It is like a family instinct—in the child a blind devotion, in the man an intelligent love. It is a spiritual capacity. Through a pride in our country's past, through love of her scenery, through subtle and traditional feelings in the blood, through a thousand influences which come to us out of the past and are interwoven with all the fibres of our being, there grows before us the ideal of our country. It is no lifeless idol, but an invisible divinity we must honor and obey.

When each man among us, beyond his home affections, beyond his every-day concerns, feels the pressure of those invisible ideals, then is he a true New Englander—worthy child of the mother of a mighty race!

MONDAY.

The day began with the ringing of the bells. At 10 o'clock the Historical Exhibit was formally opened. Some account of the work of the committee will be of interest.

When this committee organized for work, Mrs. G. Thomas Parkhurst was chosen secretary. A sub-committee to have charge of arranging the exhibit was appointed, of which the Rev. Wilson Waters was chairman; the other members being Mr. Edwin L. Stearns, Miss Martha E. Dadmun, Mrs. G. T. Parkhurst and Mrs. Edwin R. Clark.

Six meetings were held with Miss Dadmun, one at the house of Mr. J. A. Bartlett, and one at the Rev. Mr. Waters' study.

Great interest was manifested by the members of the committee, and the work of collecting the articles and arranging them was done with the intelligence and care of connoisseurs. The exhibit showed but a small part of the historic treasures contained in the homes of Chelmsford, yet it was large and complete, and of great interest and value. It was regarded by visitors as an extraordinary collection.

The thanks of the committee are due to the First Congregational society for the use of their vestry, in which the exhibit was arranged. Admission was free. The number of articles exhibited was over seven hundred, and all were gathered and returned to their owners without loss or damage.

At 10 o'clock on Monday the doors were thrown wide, and the exhibit was formally opened. The entire committee was present, when, with brief and appropriate remarks, Mr. Henry S. Perham announced to the people, who had immediately filled the room, that the exhibit was now open to the public.

The articles in the collection, consisting of almost everything conceivable in use in the olden days, were tastefully arranged in three long glass cases (made of window frames and excellently adapted to the purpose) and upon the walls of the room. The cases were generously loaned by the Middlesex North Agricultural Society. An old fashioned kitchen was arranged on the vestry stage, with a huge fireplace and all its ancient furniture of two hundred years ago. In selecting articles for the exhibit, the rule was to take only such as were historically connected with Chelmsford. Many of these articles were not only interesting as illustrating colonial times, but were intrinsically valuable. There were numerous interesting portraits, photographs and daguerreotypes, also two copies of old engravings of scenes in Chelmsford, England, sent by Mr. Fred Spalding to Mr. Walter Perham. The exhibit attracted large numbers during the whole three days, and involved a large amount of work on the part of the committee, members of which were continually present, and at night the room was guarded by a watchman. Many expressed the wish that the collection might become permanent. A register kept here received the names of over 1,300 people. Probably three times that number visited the exhibit. The throng was so great that many, after long waiting, were unable to get to the register.

List Of Those Who Loaned Articles For The Exhibit.

F. L. Fletcher, D. P. Byam, G. T. Parkhurst, Miss L. R. Spalding, Mrs. F. E. Bean, L. Jarvis Mansfield, Miss M. E. Warren, Mrs. Thomas Hall, H. L. Parkhurst, Miss M. E. Dadmun, Miss Sarah L. Putnam, E. F. Parker, Mrs. Frank Adams, C. E. Bartlett, Miss Laura Byam, F. A. Marshall, Miss A. E. Hunt, Miss E. J. Gay, Mrs. C. Lapham, G. P. Mansfield, A. H. Park, Mrs. Emily Reed, John P. Eaton, H. S. Perham, E. W. Sweetser, G. E. Spalding, Mrs. R. W. Dix, J. P. Emerson, Mrs. Carrie Dutton, George E. Gould, C. A. Bride, Robert D. Russell, E. L. Stearns, Mrs. N. P. Parker, Geo. O. Byam, F. C. Byam, Mrs. Luther W. Faulkner, Mrs. S. W. Parkhurst, J. F. Parker, A. H. Sherman, Mrs. Sarah Hazen, A. F. Fletcher, E. E. Proctor, Mrs. B. M. Fiske, Mrs. A. P. Perham, Mrs. Fred Russell, Mrs. Nellie Fletcher, J. A. Bartlett, Walter Perham, Mrs. Mary O. Parker, Mrs. Fletcher, Mrs. Amos Adams, Mrs. P. M. Batchelder, Mrs. Caroline Gilmore, Wilson Waters, Mrs. E. R. Parker, Almon Vose, C. F. M. Fish,

PEOPLE LEAVING THE TOWN HALL ON MONDAY AFTERNOON

S. T. Park, Miss Mary Allen, Mrs. Hannah M. Byam, John Byam, E. C. Perham, Mrs. Caroline Proctor, Miss Frances Warren, Charles Cutter, Miss Emma L. Burgess, Mrs. H. M. Blodgett, Mrs. Geo. B. Holt, Mrs. F. K. Ripley, Mrs. E. F. Small, Mrs. S. R. Edwards, Mrs. George B. Hall, Mrs. J. G. Dodge, George Swett, Miss E. J. Gay, North Chelmsford Library, Second Congregational Church, Judge S. P. Hadley, Mrs. Jos. Bowers, Mrs. O. M. Pratt, Miss Catherine Pratt, Miss M. E. Tyler, Mrs. Sarah Bent, Miss Mary S. Robinson, Miss Abba Smith, Miss Loraine Wightman, Mrs. S. Tyler, Mrs. M. E. Cushing, Mrs. E. J. Emerson, Mrs. Orrin Pierce, Amos B. Adams, J. Roland Parkhurst, Fred Dutton, Raymond Dutton, Royal Dutton, Mrs. Maria Spalding, Mrs. Frank Adams, Miss Julia Richardson, Baptist Society, Mrs. A. E. Dean, Mrs. J. E. Warren, Miss Emily Byam, S. W. Parkhurst, Joseph Bowers, Dr. Willard Parker.

The concert on the common closed the events of the forenoon.

The Anniversary Exercises. 2 p. m.

The interior of the Town Hall had been tastefully decorated and was filled to its fullest capacity by an intelligent and appreciative audience. On the stage were the general committee and the speakers. The North Chelmsford Band furnished the music.

PRESIDENT BARTLETT'S ADDRESS.

Fellow Citizens and Friends :

The honor of presiding over this assemblage today has been conferred on me by the general committee in charge, and I accept the duty with pleasure. It is an honor which comes to but few men, comparatively speaking, to preside over a body of people assembled as you are today for the purpose of celebrating the 250th birthday of a town in this country. And it is a pleasure for me to stand here and look into the faces of you, who, for so many years, have been my good friends. It is a far cry back 250 years to the time when your ancestors and mine came here and settled in what was then an unbroken wilderness. On the north, the lordly Merrimack ran to the sea, unvexed by dam or mill wheel. On the east the sleepy Concord wended its way to join its forces with its larger brother. Hale's brook and Beaver brook wended their way through bright meadow or virgin forest, on their way to the great ocean. Robin's hill rose high above the valleys, still and silent as a sentinel standing guard over a camp. There was here no vision of a town, much less of a large city, such as is gathered today on the banks of the Merrimack. Nothing was here except God's sunshine and the sighing of the winds through swaying pines, sweet laden with the breath of spring flowers. These men and women

who gathered here, striving to make a home, and wrest a living out of the hard New England soil, builded better than they knew. For from them (and the same may be said of all the New England towns) have sprung largely the men and the women who have made this commonwealth and this great nation what it is today. They planted the germ which has grown into an "Empire of American Freemen."

They were matter-of-fact people, made so by the circumstances which surrounded them and the difficulties which they had to surmount. But they had their ideals and their ideas, and from them came the idea which developed, without any precedent or formula, the government of the New England state embodying the greatest and "highest independence of the individual, consistent with the highest social and civil rights of every other member."

It has been well said by another in an address on an occasion similar to this, that "the development of this idea created, through the sovereignty of the state, delegated to the towns, the best system of local self government ever devised or administered, and the existence and extent of error and corruption in state or municipal government today is measured by the line of departure from this idea. If their ideals were high, they were their own. If their visions were prophetic, they were their own prophets. They were not singing their songs in a strange land, they were tuning their harps on their own new Jordan. They were building a democracy, and took good care to leave no foothold for an aristocracy. They chose their parsons and representatives to the general court at the same town meeting and reserved the right to criticise the theology of the one and the politics of the other. Their enthusiasm was not formative; it was born of an insistent, personal independence in religion, and by force of this rule, the theory of intolerance of the seventeenth century worked out the conditions of liberality in the eighteenth."

These men and women were a benediction to their day and generation and no man or woman need be in the least degree ashamed today that you bear their good old names, or that their blood runs through your veins.

We meet today to honor their memory, and to gather inspiration for our own future by looking back on what they have done.

On yonder common stands the monument erected to the memory of the Revolutionary soldiers, and on that shaft, and also on your municipal seal, are these words: "Let the children guard what the sires have won." Are we doing what these words require? They apply, I know, to deeds done in the war; but "Peace hath her victories no less renowned than war."

There are many historic spots in this old town which should be marked and preserved, and I suggest that during or after this celebration a historical society be formed by you to do this work. There are many old residents coming here to visit you, and I doubt not that they would be

glad to contribute to such an object, that the traditions of your and their ancestors may be preserved.

Men and women of this honored old town, what I have said has been all in relation to the past. All about us today are your beautiful homes, monuments to your thrift and enterprise.

Within the last twenty years have come into your town and into your homes many of the appliances of modern art and science, making your method of living easier, and your communications with the world and each other better. You have builded your public schools and opened wide their doors to all, improving their system to correspond with modern methods.

You have, through the generosity of one of the descendants of one of the first settlers of the town, a beautiful public library, on whose shelves are gathered a treasure of literature, second to none of its size. Your hands have always been open to deeds of charity and mercy. What better record can a town have than this?

"Peace is at thy wall, and prosperity within thy gates."

ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

The address of welcome was delivered by Walter Perham, Chairman of the Board of Selectmen. He said:

Two and one half centuries ago, when Oliver Cromwell was Lord Protector of England, when the American Indian roamed about the fields and forests of Massachusetts colony, when Boston was a town and this community contained but 20 families, those families, our Puritan ancestors, desiring to improve their condition, assembled together and established here the township of Chelmsford.

We gather today with a feeling of deepest gratitude to do honor to those brave pioneers, and all the good citizens who, through the past, have fostered here the spirit of freedom, thrift and enterprise.

Our great American nation, strong and mighty, but still ambitious in her youth, has witnessed many changes within the period of time which we commemorate. Monarchy has been supplanted by Democracy. Our land has broadened westward to the Pacific. The great civil strife, threatening as it did our national integrity within the memory of many of you here today, has become a matter of history, and the spirit of friendship and unity prevails throughout our land. A century and a quarter of Democracy brings us again closer to our mother England, with the same brotherhood which prompted the return of the battle flags to the regiments of the South.

The people of Chelmsford have been engaged for the most part in agricultural pursuits; some of our sons for eight generations have tilled the soil of their fathers, but other industries have from time to time played an important part.

The first stone block erected in Boston was built of Chelmsford granite.

The first match factory in the country was erected at South Chelmsford.

One of the earliest machine shops in the country is still running at North Chelmsford, and is now surrounded by the large plant of the Moore Spinning Company, employing nearly 1,000 persons, and which, with other adjacent property, stands as a monument to the energy of Mr. Geo. C. Moore.

The centre village is not given largely to mercantile pursuits, but furnishes attractive homes for many merchants and artisans of our neighboring city of Lowell.

New and well appointed school buildings have recently been erected at the east and west village, at an expense of $15,000, to meet the demands of a growing population in those sections. Chelmsford contains few men of wealth or of poverty. The town has been developed by the people as a whole. Our citizens contribute generously to the support of schools, highways and public improvements, maintaining an unusually large mileage of highway.

The sons of Chelmsford who have gone forth in the world and acquired wealth and fortune still cling in memory to the old hearthstone. The loyalty of one is well exemplified by the beautiful library over yonder, the gift of Mr. Amos F. Adams of Boston.

Today our citizens show their loyalty by contributing so generously to this Quarter Millennial.

We are glad to welcome our returning sons and daughters who, by their presence, manifest a kindly interest in their native town, and one of whom, a prominent educator, will greet us from the platform.

We are proud today of Chelmsford; proud of her age, her record and her sons, and we extend to you all the right hand of fellowship and of welcome to enjoy with us these anniversary exercises.

THE RESPONSE.

Prof. Charles F. Emerson, Dean of Dartmouth College, made the response.

I am happy, thrice happy, to be here today, and on this joyous occasion to voice the feelings and sentiments of so many returning sons and daughters of this good old town, the dear home in early days of so many

in this assembly. Every one must recognize a sort of fellow-feeling springing up among those born in adjacent neighborhoods, and experience a strong tie of sympathy, due to identity of local origin and made enduring by all the forces of early associations. These ties and associations conspire to make us one today; these cords of mutual sympathy running back to our childhood days are stronger than "bands of steel" and bind us into one family in interest and affection for this, our native town.

We are, indeed, a happy family, and we thank you for the gracious and generous welcome you have just extended to us; we accept it, and promise you that in so far as in us lies we will do our part to make this celebration a pleasant and profitable event in the history of Chelmsford. We have come home, to our dear old home, and that word means more to us today than ever before. It is enriched by the thought of dear ones who have entered into our lives and passed on; it is dear as the home of our fathers and our fathers' fathers. Dear, also, to us because of the youthful struggles in school and out of school; dear because we recall the good times at sport on the common, and the delightful walks after school, or on pleasant Saturday afternoons; dear to some of us when we remember the good times at the singing school, and the walk home where the path was just wide enough for two, under the exercise of proper care.

Dear and still dearer, because here sleeps kindred dust, and here are the graves of loved ones who sacrificed their lives that we might enjoy the perfect freedom of this, our beloved land. Such are the thoughts of many hearts today; words cannot describe them; money cannot purchase them; they are a blessed inheritance; they are the sign and pledge of a healthy social life. Let us be boys and girls again for the time being; this world has very little use for a man or woman who forgets the joys of youth. We must not decry sentiment; it is a large part of our lives; it is a sweetness in the midst of the trials and troubles of life; the sentiment of local pride and local attachment is of the same quality as patriotism and may bear the same name. We love our country after we have learned to love our home, and because of that love; it is the home feeling, in a larger and broader sense, at first, as a child, enclosed within four walls, then expanding, in youth and early manhood, to embrace the town, the state, and, finally, the country at large.

But we are here today to speak of the town, and what do we mean by that term? Surely not the land, farm joining farm, whether fertile field or heavily wooded acres, not the roads, nor the hills, nor the brooks; not even the people who live within its boundary lines at any given time; it is the sum total of these, and much more than these; it is the aggregate of all the personalities, together with the institutions of government, of education, and of religion; it is, in part, the free, popular government where each man is the equal of every other man; it is especially the ideals

of character which control the community, supported by public sentiment and exemplified in noble and useful lives; it is the kindly influence of home, the ready sympathy of neighbors and friends, the unselfish devotion in times of trouble, and the willingness to bear one another's burdens, the thousand and one ways in which joys and sorrows are shared; all this and more goes to the making of a town, and gives it an individuality, almost a personality. The importance and worth of a town are not to be estimated by its statistics of industries, nor on the basis of its reputed wealth, nor by the number of its population. The best product of a town is not its crops nor its bales of merchandise, but its men and women, its boys and girls; not only those who have remained at home to till the soil and care for loved ones, but also those who have gone forth to other lands, carrying the good influences of home to gladden the hearts of other people.

It is the reputation of its citizens for the sturdy qualities of honesty, morality, intelligence and patriotism which gives a town its good name and makes it a power in the state; and for the maintenance and cultivation of these sterling virtues, we must look, in the first place, to the home, that centre of influence for the child, during the character-forming period of life; in the second place, to the school which should see to it that with the intellectual quickening there creeps in no degeneration, but an advancement, in the moral training of youth; in the third place, to the church which should so wisely care for the higher spiritual awakening, that the development of the moral, the intellectual and the spiritual natures should blend into one harmonious whole to produce the symmetrical character after the pattern of the perfect man. The home, the school, the church, the best assets of any town, and these have done more in the past 250 years to make Chelmsford what she is today than all other factors combined.

While we are here today to recount our blessings and to rejoice in the possession of them, to speak of the past and what has been secured, it may be permissible to look forward as well as backward; it is a blessed thought that there is more before us than there is back of us, if we will only take the hopeful view of life and see things as they are; to preserve and advance a high standard of morals, education and religion which has so characterized this town in the past, it is necessary to unite all forces, and secure the hearty co-operation of all citizens; to do this most effectively, it is necessary to have and to exercise a feeling of self-respect, and possess a true estimate of self-importance and individual responsibility, and maintain a firm belief that the high character of a small town is of as much importance to the well-being of a state as though it were a large town or a city. When we fully realize how rapidly our large cities are growing by the absorption of the wealth of the land, and by attracting to themselves such hordes of the idle, the ignorant, the vicious, the off-scourings

of creation,—men of other lands who know little or nothing of our institutions, and care even less—it becomes the first duty of the people in country towns to make of themselves an irresistible power for righteousness in the state, to stem the corrupting influences in the large cities.

One of the greatest problems in social science today is the wise and proper management of the unhoused urchins, gamins, tramps and hoboes in the slums of the cities; but there is a still greater one,—how to limit and counteract the influence of the unhomed and unprincipled speculator and cheap millionaire who, by the power of unscrupulously acquired accumulations, is undermining the character of so many young men of our land. To overcome such influences and keep the town and state pure, it is the urgent duty of every citizen to be thoroughly informed in public affairs, and to have all members of a community work in harmony and in hearty co-operation with the powers that make for political purity, honesty, and intelligence; to this end, a spirit of mutual encouragement, of helpfulness and hopefulness is absolutely essential; a tendency to despondency, or the giving way to pessimistic feelings when things seem to go amiss, is fatal to progress; losing heart or hope is many times nearly equivalent to losing the battle. All great reforms have been led by men or women of hopeful and sanguine temperaments. We must beware of certain mottoes prevalent in some places, such as, "Expect nothing and you will not be disappointed," "Be good and virtuous and you will be lonesome."

May God, the giver of all good, bless you who have come home, and you to whom we have come, and bless the good old town of Chelmsford evermore."

THE TOWN OUR FATHERS BUILDED.

HISTORICAL ADDRESS BY HENRY S. PERHAM.

At the time our Chelmsford history began, there were within the present limits of Massachusetts forty-four towns. These were almost wholly in the extreme eastern section of the state.

From the first line of towns scattered along the coast, settlements had, as population increased, gradually extended along the lines of the rivers towards the interior. Up to the time of the grant of our township in 1653, but one town had been incorporated so far inland as Chelmsford. This was a frontier town, as were also Billerica and Groton, which were established at the same time.

The natural expansion of the colony sustained a rude check in King Philip's War and the Indian troubles that followed, so that this continued to be regarded as a frontier town for fifty years.

The founders of the town were most of them born in England, and emigrated to this country previous to 1640 to escape from religious persecution. Such people must needs be possessed of strong character and deep religious convictions.

They were God-fearing men and women who sought to build up the kingdom of God here in the wilderness. Combined with their religious zeal, however, was a practical common sense in worldly affairs. We may, therefore, readily believe that their prime motive in pushing out here into the wilderness was to better their condition and enable them to provide a more comfortable support for their families.

To plant their homes upon this rugged soil, and attempt to subdue the land with their rude implements, with savage beasts lurking in the forest and Indians watching their movements with suspicion, was an undertaking requiring resolute hearts.

This tract was first examined with a view to settlement in 1652. The following year in May, 29 men living in Concord and Woburn petitioned the General Court for the grant of a township six miles square which, as the petition states, "bordereth upon Merrimack River near to Paatucket, which we doe find; a Very Comfortable place to acomidate A company of gods people Upon; that may with gods blessinge and Asistance Liue Comfortably Upon; and doe good in our places for church and Comon wealth."

Only about one half of those whose names appear upon the petition came here to settle, but among those who did become permanent settlers, you will recognize the names; Adams, Fletcher, Butterfield, Chamberlain Proctor, Parker and other names which have been prominent in this vicinity to the present time.

Another petition was presented at the same time by Rev. John Eliot of Roxbury in behalf of the Pawtucket Indians, or Wamesits, as they came to be known.

These Indians dwelt upon the tract now occupied by the City of Lowell. Their village was at the mouth of the Concord river. At the fishing place at the foot of the Pawtucket falls, we are told "great numbers of them assembled in the fishing season. With their nets made of wild hemp, they drew from the river the salmon and bass, and from their frail canoes gliding over the surface of the water at night, they, with flaming torches of birch bark waving above them, lured the sturgeon which came 'tumbling and playing and throwing up their white bellies' to the Indian's unerring spear."

At the wigwam of Wanalancit, upon the banks of the river, within sound of the falling waters, the Apostle Eliot gathered these dusky savages about him, and attempted, with some success, to instill into their minds the principles of the Christian religion.

An excellent account of these Indians has been given by Gen. Daniel Gookin, who accompanied Mr. Eliot upon one of his annual visits. He tells of their habits, the court held there, their Indian teacher, gives an account of the conversion of Wanalancit and his unique confession of faith, and deplores the Indians' lack of thrift in not improving their opportunities to supply the Boston market with fresh salmon at a good price.

Thanks to the watchful interest of Rev. Mr. Eliot, the General Court granted to the Indians a plantation which included practically what is now Lowell on this side of the Merrimack river.

The petitioners from Woburn and Concord were also given a township grant upon condition that, unless they "within two yeares setel a competent noumber of familjes there, by building and planting vppon the sajd tract of land twenty familjes or vpwards, so as they may be in capacitje of injoying all the ordjnances of God there, then the graunt to be vojd."

A committee was appointed at the same time to lay out both grants.

The Chelmsford grant as laid out extended from the Concord river and Wamesit on the east to Groton on the west. On the south, it was bounded by the Blood farms, Concord and Nashoba, and on the north was an unbroken wilderness inhabited only by the red men.

The first family to come and settle in this tract was, according to tradition, that of Abraham Parker. The family consisted of himself, his wife Rose, and four small children. This tradition was mentioned in a letter written 84 years ago by the town clerk, Jonathan Perham, to Judge Francis Parker of Boston.

Soon other families followed and dwellings were built. A town meeting was held at the house of William Fletcher, 1654, at which men were chosen "to officiate in Ordering the Publick affairs of the Place," roads were laid out, and all steps taken which were needful in their new community.

The General Court was soon informed that the twenty families, required by the terms of their grant, had taken up their abode here, and, accordingly, at the Spring session of the court in the week ending May 29, 1655, two hundred and fifty years ago today, the following act of incorporation was passed.

"Vppon informacon from Major Willard by a letter from Esdras Read, Edward Spalden, Wm. Fletcher, etc., inhabitants of a new plantacon, that the noumber of inhabitants, according to the time pfixt in the Courts

graunt, were there settled at theire request, the Court doth graunt the name thereof to be called Chelmsford." Groton and Billerica were incorporated at the same time.

The mother town of Chelmsford in England, for which this was named, is situated in the County of Essex, on the river Chelmer, and is 29 miles from London. It is a substantial and interesting old town, now containing a population of about 13,000.

One of the first concerns of these pioneers was the establishment of a church, and we find them looking about for a minister, even before the incorporation of the town, while there were less than twenty families in the place. Proposals were made to Rev. John Fiske, who had gathered a little church at Wenham, near Salem. The proposition of the Chelmsford people was unique in that they sought to transplant from Wenham to Chelmsford both church and pastor.

An account of the negotiations between the parties is preserved to us in the handwriting of Mr. Fiske himself. After the Wenham company were satisfied with the proposals made to them, the question was submitted to a council to determine whether Mr. Fiske should remain with his people in Wenham, or come to Chelmsford and unite with the people here to form a new church. Of this council, Mr. Fiske tells us, "the p'ties agreed upon were Mr. Endicot, Govrnor, Mr. Mather, Mr. Allen of Dedham, Mr. Cobbet, Mr. Sherman, Capt. Johnson of Woobuerne, who determined the case for Chelmsford." This action is significant as showing the prayerful deliberation of these people in acting upon any matter relating to the welfare of the church.

This council contained some of the most eminent men in the colony, At its head was that sturdy Puritan, Gov. John Endicott; the second was Rev. Richard Mather of Dorchester, the father of Increase, and grandfather of Cotton Mather; the third was Rev. John Cobbet of Lynn; the fourth, Rev. John Sherman of Watertown; the next was Rev. John Allin of Dedham, who had come to this country in the same ship with Mr. Fiske; and the last was Capt. Edward Johnson of Woburn, the author of that rare work, "The Wonder Working Providence of Zion's Savior in New England." He was one of the committee appointed by the General Court to lay out the Chelmsford grant.

The account of the organization of the church is best given in the language of Mr. Fiske himself, as it appears in his handwriting.

"Accordingly, about the 13th of 9mo, '55, there were met at Chelmsford, the pastor with the engaged Brethren of Wenham church, viz: Ezdras Read, Edw. Kemp, Austin Killam, Sa: Foster, Geo: Byam & Rich. Goldsmith, seuen in all, To whom such of the Brethren of Wooburne & Concord ch: who had before ppounded themselves to joyne with the ch:

late at Wenham. Now in Removeing to Chelmsford & prsented themselues, with there Lrs of Dismission: upon satisfaction & Testimony giuen were by an vnanimous vote Received into fellowship. They being the greater numb. in way of mutual complyance, a Relation passd on either side, as each one voluntarily would:"

	membs sig'd
Viz: Isaack Lernett (he dyed 8. of 10. 57)	1
Simon Thompson (he dyed about 3 qrs. of a y. after at Ooburne	2
Wm. Vnderwood	3
Abram Parker	4
Benja Butterfield	5
Tho: Chamberlain	6

Next received Dan. Blogged who brought lrs of dismission from the ch: at Cambridge. 7

So after this the seales of the supp administred & there were admitted by vote these Members of other churches, to côion with us in these seales.

Mr. Griffin, Wm. fletcher & his wife, Tho; Adams & his wife, Br-Vndrwoods wife, (Edw. Spalding), Bro: Butterfeilds wife, Bro: Chamber. lins wife, Edm: Chamberlins wife, Abram Parkers wife, Jos. Parkers wife, Isa: Lernets wife, Sim: Thompsons wife.

Since Rec'd into fellowship was Jacob Parker, 8.

It would be interesting to know how many of those in this hall today are descendants of any of the members of that little group of 29 persons who partook of that first communion in Chelmsford. I think the number would be found to be larger than would be at first supposed. I am able to claim eight of them as my ancestors, and I have no doubt that there are others here who had as many, and some perhaps more.

The Wenham company was a valuable acquisition to Chelmsford

Mr. Fiske was born in England about 1601—nearly twenty years before the landing of the Pilgrims. He was a graduate of Emanuel College. He came to this country in 1637, bringing a letter of commendation to Gov. Winthrop.

Cotton Mather gives a very interesting biographical account of Mr. Fiske in his "Magnalia." The following paragraph is sufficient to show the high esteem in which he was held by his contemporaries. He says: "And among the first preachers and writers, which rendered the primitive times of New England happy, there was one who might likewise be called a beloved physician: one to whom there might also be given the eulogy which the ancients think was given to Luke, a brother whose praise was in the gospel throughout all [the] churches. This was Mr. John Fisk."

He prepared a catechism which was published in 1657. They were sold to his parishioners at 6 pence each, but a copy today is worth $100.

To quote again from Mather: "Twenty years did he shine in the golden candlestick of Chelmsford; a plain, but an able, painful and useful preacher of the gospel." I must leave this interesting man with the mention of the valuable relic which the church possesses in the shape of a communion cup with his initials upon the base, and the stamp of the maker, John Dixwell, upon the side. Dixwell was a goldsmith of Boston and a son of the regicide judge of that name.

The meeting house was built in 1659 or 1660, upon or near the site of the present Unitarian church. We have no description of the building, but as it cost the town £264 and served its purpose for more than fifty years, it must have been a substantial structure. The meeting house was the social centre; around this rude altar clustered the best interests of the community. Probably it was not furnished with pews, but like most of the meeting houses of that day, the people were seated upon rude benches.

"Seating the meeting house" was a custom significant of social distinctions which, at that time, were sharply drawn. A committee chosen by the town and composed of some of its most dignified men assigned to each person the seat which he, or she, was to occupy each Sabbath. The custom which prevailed at the time was to seat the people according to age, rank and estate.

When the second meeting house was built in 1712 to supersede the first one, the town voted as instructions to their seating committee, "that the Eldest persons shall be seted in the foremost seats and Like Wise that thare be a modrate Regard to estats in seating the meeting house."

Soon pews began to be introduced, a few favored persons being allowed to build them at their own expense for themselves and families. But such a privilege could only be obtained by vote in town meeting.

In 1712, "It was uoted that Colonall tyng, Capt. Bowrs, Capt. Barron, and Jonathan Richardson shall have the Liberty and Benefit of making Pues in that uacant Roome, one the East side of the Pulpit in the New Meeting hous to the East Window." Of this favored few, the first, Col. Jonathan Tyng, was of that wealthy and aristocratic family for which the town of Tyngsboro was named. The second, Capt. Jerathmel Bowers, lived upon what is now Wood Street in Lowell, and, if tradition tells true, in the identical house now occupied by one of his descendants, Joseph Bowers. The third pew owner, Capt. Moses Barron, was chairman of the selectmen and town clerk, and the last, Jonathan Richardson, was the proprietor of a mill at the mouth of Stony Brook, where is now the thriving village of North Chelmsford.

The Puritan congregations must have suffered extreme discomfort in the cold of Winter, to have sat through two long sermons in their unwarmed churches. Parson Bridge mentions in his diary one case when the cold was so severe that he was unable to complete his sermon. He

says, "7 January, 1787—Lord's day & Com'n day, I preach'd f'm Matt. 27–47, 2d Serm to y. Improvmt & was obliged To leave yt, it being exceeding cold—Adminstred Sac't Supper, but purpose nevr more to attempt it, if I am continued, when so Cold. At this time, he was 73 years of age and had preached in Chelmsford 46 years. When younger, he doubtless bore such ordeals unflinchingly.

The diary of Judge Sewall of Boston mentions one bitter cold Sunday. "The communion bread was frozen pretty hard, and rattled sadly into the plates."

If they shivered from the cold themselves, they were humane to their horses waiting outside. As early as 1719 the town voted, "that Stephen Peirce senor, and Several of the inhabitants of the Neck shall haue Liberty to buld a Stable Nere the meeting house," and others were, from time to time, given similar privileges. It was sometime later before we find that their own comfort was provided for by noon-houses in which to spend the intermission between the morning and afternoon service, and partake of their lunch before a glowing fire.

The town made liberal grants of land in 1656 to Samuel Adams to encourage the establishment of a sawmill and cornmill. These were situated upon Great brook at what is now known as Russell's mills.

Before the land was enclosed by fences, the people entered into communal arrangements for the care of their cattle by herding them upon the common or unappropriated lands, in charge of keepers. They also fenced and shared fields in common. In one case, 900 acres were enclosed and shared by fifty proprietors. This field, then used as pasturage for cattle and sheep, embraced within its limits what is now the heart of the city of Lowell. Other saw and cornmills were set up from time to time upon the various streams; also fulling mills and iron works.

An interesting incident occurred about two hundred years ago, in connection with the mill at the mouth of Stony brook at the present village of North Chelmsford.

Daniel Waldo, a son of Dea. Cornelius Waldo, established a corn or gristmill and sawmill here in 1695. These he sold in 1700 to John Richardson, who with Jonathan Richardson was granted in 1707 liberty of erecting iron works "with Conveiniency of flowing, provided it Damnifie none of the Inhabitants."

Wishing, in time of low water, to use more than the stream afforded Mr. Richardson asked of the town, two years later, and was granted the "Liberty of Drawing of the pond Called New-fied-pond to suply his mill withWater: And shall have the benifit of sd pond to the high-water mark." This was the pond since called Leach's pond, and more recently christened Crystal Lake.

The attempt of Mr. Richardson to avail himself of the benefit of the waters of this pond caused a most remarkable catastrophe. As the workmen were digging a channel through the bank of the pond, the pressure of the water suddenly burst through the weakened bank, and the water rushed forth, carrying with it a negro, who happened to be working in the ditch at the time, and burying him in a mound of sand carried by the water to the meadow below.

Thus, this pond, covering over 70 acres, was all drawn off, with the exception of about an acre in the lowest part. The bed of this old pond remained dry for more than a hundred years, a thrifty growth of timber meanwhile growing up from it. My father has told me of going, when a child, with his father to haul timber from the bed of this old pond. I have recently been told that the hotel "Adams House," burned several years ago, was built in 1820 from timber which grew in the bed of that pond. In 1824, Gen. Leach had the breach in the bank repaired, and the pond was again filled with water, as it has since remained.

In 1671 we find the first intimations that danger was feared from the Indians. Evidently some symptoms were discovered of that storm which, four years later, broke with such fury upon the colony in King Philip's War.

As a precautionary measure, the men were ordered to bring clubs with them to the meeting house. This curious record reads: "25the 5th mo 1671, It is ordered by the Selectt men For severall Considerations, espetialy For the preseruation of peace, That with in one moneth After the Date hear of euery malle person with in our towne Above the Age of Fiueten years shall prouid a good Clube of Fouer or Fiue Foot in lingth with a knobe in the end, and to bringe the same to the metting house ther to leaue the same vntill ocation fore use of it [be]

sicmed the Name of the Rest by

Sam Adames, Clerke.

Two years later, the town built a house upon Robins hill, the purpose of which is not clear. It was neither sufficiently large nor substantial for a garrison house, being of one room, 16x18, covered with but a single thickness of boards, and with but one window. The fact that Indian troubles were brewing, and that the committee appointed to select its location, Lieut. Samuel Foster and Ensign William Fletcher, were both officers in the "foot company," would indicate that it was intended to serve some military purpose. The place was admirably adapted for a lookout, from which to discover and warn people of approaching danger.

Several years before, the friendly Wamesits had built a stockade upon Fort hill, now Rogers' Park, in Lowell, to protect themselves from their dreaded foes, the Mohawks. There was a tradition, related to me many years ago by an old man, that these Indians signaled across from Fort hill to high points in Chelmsford.

The following is the wording of the contract for the house upon Robins hill:—

7 of octtobor, 1673, Att a generall metting Acording to the towne order thes Foloing:—

Articls of agreement made the seventh Day of octobor on thousand sixe hundreth seventy and three, bettwine the inhabitants of Chelmsford and Joseph barrett of the same place.

1. The said Joseph barrett Doth promis and Ingage to build a house of eighten Foott longe and sixteen foott wid and eight foott stud, and to Do all the worke belonging to the same From the stump to the finishing of the same and to Find bords For the hole house and lay the Flowers and Dobell bord the Roofe and bord the sids and ends and to make the Chemly and Dore and window and to Find stones and Clay and to Finish the said house att or beefore the last Day of march Next insewing the Date above.

2. The inhabitants of Chelmsford Do promise and hearby ingage to pay vnto the Forsaid barett in full satiffacttion for the house Aforesaid the Just sum of twelve pounds in towne pay that is such as the towne Can produce and to pay the same twelve powds att or beefore the tenth Day of octtobor in the yeare on thousand sixe hundreth seventy and Foure as wittnes in the behalfe of the towne the Date above allso it was agreed vpon that the towne shold Find Naills for the whole house.

Sam Adames, Clerke.

Upon the same date, "It was voated that all male persons From the Age of Twelve years to sixtey shall every one worke one Day in the yeare For the Clearing of Robins hill." The selectmen to "Apoint a man to lead on the worke either ther or else whear." First book P. 116.

Joseph Barrett had a double motive for doing faithful work when he built the house for the town; for, when completed, it was promptly occupied by Francis Gould, whose daughter, Martha, the builder had married the year before.

Goold, or Gould, signed an agreement with the selectmen, stating that, "I have taken to hier the house and land that I now live in of the selecttmen of the towne For which house and land I Do couenatt with thm to pay yearly the sum of one peck of endian Corn For the towns use as wittnes my hand this last tuseday in Desembor 1673."

Francis Goold,
his mark.

Gould and his wife, Rose, had a family of five small children, and others older, to occupy this one room cottage, which had but a single thickness of boarding to protect its inmates from the blasts of winter.

Francis and Rose Gould have many descendants living today,one of whom, Hon. Samuel L. Powers, you will have the privilege of hearing tomorrow in this hall.

The fact that only a nominal rent was required, sufficient only to acknowledge the town's ownership in the property, plainly implies that the occupant was to render to the town some service as an equivalent for the use of the property, or else that the family were in circumstances requiring aid from the town. The most reasonable supposition is that he was to maintain a lookout and warn the inhabitants in case of any discovered peril.

Gould remained in the house until his death, March 27, 1676. In October following, his daughter, Hannah, married Daniel Galusha, a Dutchman, who paid the town the peck of corn due for rent, and leased the house and seven acres of land for the term of seven years, for which he was to pay, as an acknowledgment of his grant from the town, "say one peck and halfe of Corne yerly." The one condition stated in the contract was, "that he distorbe not his mother Gools peaceabl living in the house." First book, P. 131.

Galusha remained in the house three years, when, his mother-in-law Gould having died, his request to leave the house was granted. Later he removed to Dunstable, where the family had a sad experience. At the assault upon that town by the Indians, on the night of July 3d, 1706, his house, upon Salmon river, was attacked and burned. Galusha escaped and one of the women of the household fled from the flames and saved herself from the savages by hiding in the underbrush, but his daughter. Rachel,* was killed. She was a young lady born in this town 22 years before.

In King Philip's war, Chelmsford suffered less than most of the frontier towns. The people were, nevertheless, constantly harassed by fear lest the cruel fate of Groton and other exposed towns might overtake them. When the family retired for the night, they knew not at what hour they might be awakened from their slumbers by the war whoop of the savages to find their home in flames and their children slaughtered.

Wamesit was one of the Apostle Eliot's praying towns, and these Indians did not join in hostilities against the English. But the atrocities perpetrated by the savages in other places,and the fact that some of Eliot's Christian Indians had been discovered among the hostile bands, engendered feelings of bitter hatred toward the Indians.

Many people were seized with the wild desire to exterminate all Indians indiscriminately.

Some of the Chelmsford men who knew the Wamesits best, remained their stanch friends.

*Born at Chelmsford, Sept. 14, 1683.

A barn belonging to James Richardson was burned and also some haystacks, and the Wamesits were "vehemently suspected" of being guilty of these acts. Passions aroused by this led to the wanton shooting of several of the Indians. In reference to this outrage, Increase Mather of Boston, wrote in his diary: "It is to be feared yt yir [that there] is guilt vpon ye Land in resp. of ye Indians yea Guilt of blood in resp. of ye Indian so treacherously murdered at Chelmsford. I am affraid God will viset for yt gf [that grief]." Several houses on the north side of the river, belonging to the Coburns, were burned, probably in retaliation by the Wamesits, and two sons of Samuel Varnum were shot and killed while crossing the river with their father in a boat to tend their cattle on the other side.

The ruler of the Wamesits, Numphow, now retired with his people into the wilderness to the north. Their troubles, however, were not ended. Capt. Mosely and his band, while scouting towards Pennacook, came upon their wigwams which had been left upon his approach, and these, with the provisions contained in them, were burned. Their further sad fortunes we cannot now follow. They never returned in any considerable numbers to their ancient home at Wamesit.

In 1685 the town chose a committee to treat with the Indians for the purchase of Wamesit Neck. The purchase was made from the Indians by Col. Jonathan Tyng of Dunstable and Maj. Thomas Hinchman of Chelmsford. By them, it was conveyed by deed to 50 proprietors living in Chelmsford. The tract included practically what is now occupied by the city of Lowell on the south side of the Merrimack, and 500 acres on the north side. It cost these fifty proprietors about twenty dollars each, This instrument is dated Dec. 15, 1686, "in the second year of the reign of our sovereign lord King James the second."

Benj. Parker, the son of one of the original proprietors, purchased enough of these lots to make, with the one he inherited, a farm, and settled upon what is now Pine street. The place is still occupied by his descendants of the fifth generation. It is the only set of buildings that I know of in the city that look as though they were laid out when land was bought by the acre instead of by the foot.

The records of the Wamesit Proprietors in a large manuscript volume, and covering a period of 100 years, are in the Chelmsford archives.

The people who settled upon the north side of the Merrimack river, sustained a peculiar relationship with Chelmsford. The grant of this town did not extend beyond the river at any time; nevertheless the people living there were regarded as citizens of the town. They voted, paid taxes, and attended meeting in Chelmsford, and looked to the town for protection. And when some of those people attempted to escape from their share of the burdens of taxation, on the ground that their farms were

not in Chelmsford nor in the County of Middlesex, the General Court confirmed the relationship previously existing, and ordered that they "haue their dependancs vpon, & performe services, & beare chardges wth the sajd toune of Chelmsford"—"any lawe or custome to the contrary notwthstanding, 1667, Oct. 9."

The first man who had crossed the river and settled was John Webb, alias Evered, who was an interesting character. He had been a merchant in Boston, and owned the historic spot now known as the "old corner bookstore,"on the corner of School and Washington Streets, which had been the home of the brilliant, but ill fated, Anne Hutchinson.

After coming here, he built his house on the north bank of the Merrimack, below what is known as the Durkee place. Chelmsford granted him land, laid out a highway for his accommodation, and bestowed offices upon him. He was chosen deputy to the General Court in 1663, 1664 and 1665, but, alas, for human frailty! during the latter session, he was convicted of unchaste conduct at the tavern of John Vialls where he was stopping. And this is the way that they dealt with such a lapse in moral conduct in those days. He was expelled from the General Court, fined £20, deprived of his offices, civil and military, and disfranchised. The next year, Webb, having paid his fine, "& carried it humbly & submissively, & under a due sence of his sinne," the balance of his sentence was remitted. In 1664 he sold "one halfe of the farme of Drawcutt" to Richard Shatswell and Samuel Varnum, and as this is the first appearance of the name Dracut, it seems that John Webb is fairly entitled to the honor of having furnished a name for the town. Mr. Webb came to his death in a singular manner. Bradstreet's Journal gives the following account of it.

"1668, Octob., Mr. Jno. Webbe, who sometime liued at Boston, was drowned catching a whale below the castle. In coiling vp ye line vnadvisedly he did it about his middle, thinking the whale had been dead, but suddenly shee gave a Spring and drew him out of the boat, he being in ye midst of the line, but could not bee recouered while he had any life."

It is a pity to find this graphic account modified by the statement in parenthesis "(Mr. Webb's death, as after I was better informed, was not altogether so as related.)"

The town's relationship with the people on the north side of the river terminated with the incorporation of Dracut in 1701. Chelmsford took no formal action, however, till 1706, when it was "Voted That Draw Cutt shall not voat in Chelmsford."

As the western section of the town became occupied, the people living there felt the inconvenience of being so far from the meeting house and other advantages. At their request, the West Precinct was formed, and in 1729, the town of Westford was incorporated.

This new town ambitiously established their centre upon their highest hill. From this beginning has gradually grown up about their churches and academy one of the most beautiful villages of the state; while, clustering about the manufacturing industries upon Stony brook, are the thriving villages of Brookside, Forge Village and Graniteville.

Carlisle appropriated to herself a liberal section of the south part of our town when she joined the sisterhood of towns 100 years ago.

As we come down to the time of the Revolution, we must pass over the causes which led up to it, the spirited but temperate resolutions passed in town meeting, the people's instructions to their representative to the General Court, and other interesting matters showing the feeling of the people and their intense earnestness.

When, upon the morning of the eventful 19th of April, 1775, a messenger rode into town with the news that the British troops were marching from Boston towards Concord, the people were prepared for the crisis. The minute guns were fired from a rock which stood on the upper side of what is now Central Square. Soon the minute men were making their way towards the rendezvous, from the farms in all quarters of the town. The summons found Capt. John Ford at work in his mill at Pawtucket falls. He hastened to the house, stepped into the big kitchen and partook of a bowl of bread and milk, then mounted his horse and rode away. Benjamin Pierce, the father of President Franklin Pierce, was plowing in a field, against what is now Powell Street in Lowell, near B street, there he heard the call, "his plow was in mid furrow stayed," and he chained his steers to a nearby tree (which, in after years he pointed out) and started at once to join his comrades.

My ancestor, Saml. Perham, was at work in our lower field, when the summons reached him, and he, like the others, dropped his tools and hurried to the rendezvous. When the men had gathered in the village square, the good parson, Rev. Ebenezer Bridge, invited them into the meeting house for prayers, but Sergeant Ford politely objected, on the plea of more urgent business; and well did this gallant officer justify his haste, for five British soldiers fell before his rifle that day. The spirit which animated the men is well illustrated by the case which is told of one young man who was not enrolled, but, begging permission to go in place of his more elderly employer, ran beside Sergeant Ford's horse to Concord, holding by the stirrup strap.

The Chelmsford men were enrolled in two companies, one numbering 61 men, under command of Capt. Oliver Barron, the tavern keeper, and the other of 43 men under Capt. Moses Parker, who lived about a mile east of the village, near the old turnpike at what is now the Widow Driscoll place.

When our men reached Concord, the retreat of the British had already begun. The account of William Fletcher of Parker's company states: "We followed the enemy and came up with them somewhere in Lexington." He very modestly says, "Our company behaved as well as could be expected, all things considered." "I was four times that day," he says, "where the arrows of death flew thick. We followed the enemy more than half way over Charlestown Neck. The enemy was then in plain view rising Bunker's hill." Mr. Fletcher lived in the old gambrel roof house by North Square.

Capt. Barron and Deacon Aaron Chamberlain were wounded in the engagement. The state of feeling here in Chelmsford during those eventful days is best learned from an account written at the time by Rev. Ebenezer Bridge in his diary. He says: "April 19, 1775. The civil war begun at Concord this morning! God direct all things for his glory, the good of his church and people, and for the preservation of the British colonies and to the shame and confusion of our oppressors."

The following day, he wrote: "April 20. In a terrible state, by reason of ye news from our army. The onset of ye British forces was begun at Lexington, & was carried on to Concord, where some were killed on both sides. They, i. e. ye regulars, retreated soon and were followed by our men down to Cambridge, before night. Heard of ye welfare of my sons in ye army & of my people there. Five captives were carried through this town for Amherst. A constant marching of soldiers from ye towns above toward ye army as there were yesterday from this town and the neighboring towns. We are now involved in a war which God only knows what will be the issue of, but I will hope in his mercy, and wait to see His salvation."

"21. Much in y' same posture as yesterday—Forces still going to y' army—I sent provisions to y' army—So did many more—"

"22. The same as yesterday in genl—my son Billy came home fm y' army in y' Even'g."

"23. Lord's day—I preached—but a small assembly—O 'Tis a Very distrsesing day—Soldiers passing all day & all night—"

At the Battle of Bunker Hill, the Chelmsford company under Capt. Ford distinguished itself, eleven of its members being wounded. Among the gallant officers who fell in the battle were Lieut. Col. Moses Parker and Capt. Benj. Walker, of this town, both of whom were mortally wounded and died while in the hands of the British. During the long and trying struggle which followed, the town bore its full share of the burden, both in men and supplies.

The business depression which followed the Revolution, caused by the great burden of debt and an unstable currency, was succeeded by a period of prosperity. Some of the finest colonial residences were erected during this period.

The social and intellectual life of the town seemed to have received an impetus at the same time. The Chelmsford Social Library was established in 1794, Jan. 6, and continued for a hundred years until succeeded by the Free Public Library, since named the Adams Library, in honor of a native of the town, Mr. Amos F. Adams of Newton, the generous donor of the fine Library building in which it is contained. When the social library was founded, there were but nine public libraries in the state outside of Boston.

A society was organized in 1794 for the "promotion of useful improvements in agriculture." This movement was significant of the progressive spirit of the people, for there were at that time, so far as is known, but three other agricultural societies in the entire country. It was incorporated Feb. 28, 1803, under the name of "The Western Society of Middlesex Husbandmen," and at that date there was but one other incorporated agricultural society within the present limits of Massachusetts.

Rev. Wilkes Allen prepared a history of Chelmsford, which was published at the expense of the town in 1820, the first book of town history issued in America. Five years later, the Chelmsford Classical School was established with Ralph Waldo Emerson as Preceptor.

These different movements manifest an enlightened state of society and a people proud of its history and ambitious for its highest welfare.

Any individual mention of the noble men who have from time to time been prominently identified with the town in its business, educational and professional interests, as well as of those who have gone forth to brilliant careers elsewhere, I am reluctantly forced to omit.

I regret also my inability to do justice in this paper to the manufacturing industries of the town, although realizing fully their importance in its development. The scythe factory upon the Stony brook, built in 1823, started the present village of West Chelmsford.

The thriving industrial village of North Chelmsford has grown up about the manufacturing establishments at that place. These have been conducted by men of skill, invention and business enterprise.

We are indebted to Mr. Geo. C. Moore for some very substantial and thoroughly built mills. If any buildings now standing will be found here 250 years hence, I think they must be the Moore Mills.

The great and epoch-making enterprise was the harnessing of the mighty waters of the Merrimack to the wheels of human industry. From the cotton factories then started in East Chelmsford sprang the town of Lowell in 1826 and a city ten years later—the first large manufacturing city in the country. The mother town has watched with pride the growth of this ambitious daughter from the time when the first yard of calico was printed by the Merrimack Mill, Nov. 23, 1824, to the present city, supporting a population of nearly 100,000 people.

The period of the Civil War is still fresh in the minds of many. To the call to arms, our young men responded nobly, some never to return to the homes they had left. The town kept its full quota of troops in the field throughout the bitter conflict.

In this imperfect review, I have been able to touch only here and there upon matters connected with the town's history. Of the town, as it is today, I need not speak. It is before you, polished up for your inspection. With our 250 miles of highway, any part of it can be reached without the necessity of cutting "across lots."

You will see no magnificent residences occupied by people of great wealth; neither will you find any of the abodes of poverty and sloth. Comfortable homes will everywhere greet your eye, such as would be expected in a typical New England town. Our population, by the last census, 1900, was 3,984. The enumeration now being taken will find a material increase from that number.* The town generously supports its schools and other institutions. We have an average school attendance of 690 pupils. Eight churches administer so well to the religious and moral needs of the community that we require neither jail nor police.

Of the future, who so bold as to attempt to forecast it? Let us have faith that the different elements entering into our population may be imbued with a civic pride sufficient to insure an efficient management of affairs, so that at the end of another 250 years, those living at that time to celebrate the event may look back over the space intervening between them and us, with the same pride and satisfaction with which we today contemplate the ages back to the time when the pioneers first broke ground in our beloved Chelmsford.

*4,251

The bells were rung at sunset and at 8 o'clock the concerts were given as announced on the programme. The reception at 8.15 p. m., was the occasion of bringing together many old residents, and handshaking, with pleasant conversation and renewing old acquaintances, was the order of the evening. This was one of the most enjoyable features of the celebration. The Adams orchestra furnished the music.

Celebration at North Chelmsford.

The celebration at the North Village on Monday evening was arranged with much enthusiasm and was a pronounced success. Over two thousand people witnessed the illuminations and the parade, while bands played and cannon boomed. A band concert was given in the afternoon in Donohue's field by the Truant School Band, under the direction of James P. Larkin. Many houses were decorated with flags and bunting and electric lights. The whole affair was creditable to the enterprise and loyalty of the people of the village. The parade was the principal feature of the evening, and moved from Princeton Street to Groton Road, Newfield Street to Gay, Princeton and Centre, and countermarched to Princeton, Branch, Church, Main and Princeton to the Town Hall.

The formation of the parade was as follows:

Chief Marshal, Lieut. William L. Quigley; Chief of staff, Sergt. Charles F. Scribner; Bugler, David P. McNally.

Aids, Mounted—Capt. E. H. Keyes, Preston L. Piggott, John Shaw, George C. Moore, Jr., Samuel P. Seymour, Joseph Carpentier,Henry Leake, Henry E. Howard, Robert W. Polley, John E. Harrington, Carl Ripley, Augustus E. Duncan, Michael Kinch, John C. Varney, Frank A. Mallory, Dr. F. E. Varney, James Daley, John Daley, Henry Blood, Fred Vinal, James Wotton and George Seymour.

North Chelmsford Brass Band, Hubert Bearce, Leader.

Troop F. Cavalry, dismounted—Sergt. William E. Quigley commanding. Barouche, with Rev. Fr. E. T. Schofield, Rev. D. A. Hudson and A. H. Sheldon; Barouche with Mrs. Margaret McCabe, Mrs. Owen McGrath, E. D. Bearce and Goerge Hyde, all four old residents.

St. John's Total Abstinence Society, Stephen T. Ward, Marshal.

Aids: George X. Pope, James McEnaney, Edmund Costello, John J. Townsend; Barge, with St. John's Ladies' Temperance Auxiliary.

Butler Vets Band.

Court Wannalancit, 171, M. C. O. F., John Corrigan, Marshal.

Aids: Henry Miner, George F. O'Neil, John Sherlock; Barouche, with Rev. John H. McNamara, Col. R. S. Ripley, Stewart Mackay and Edward J. Robbins.

Spanish War Veterans Drum Corps.

Moore Spinning Cricket Club, Fred T. Duncan, Marshal.

Aids: Joseph D. Cryan and Mark Ingham.

In the Town Hall, there was great enthusiasm. The interior was decorated with flags. The band and chorus were placed in the front of the hall. Those seated on the stage were Selectman James P. Dunigan, Mr. Arthur H. Sheldon, Rev. Edmund T. Schofield, Rev. John McNamara, Rev. D. A. Hudson, Chief Marshal William J. Quigley, Town Clerk Edward J. Robbins, Selectman John J. Dunn, Selectman Walter Perham, Col. Royal S. Ripley, Stewart Mackay.

Selectman James P. Dunigan called the meeting to order after the band had played. In a brief and appropriate speech, he introduced Arthur H. Sheldon as presiding officer.

Mr. Sheldon said it seemed to him that their celebration was excelling that at the Centre. The first speaker was Rev. Fr. Schofield, who made an impassioned speech on "Liberty." The chorus sang "To Thee, O Country." Rev. D. A. Hudson was introduced and spoke in a spirit of patriotism and loyalty to the town. After further singing, appropriate and effective remarks were made by Stewart Mackay and Col. Royal S. Ripley, the former speaking of the schools, and the latter praising the excellence of the celebration. The meeting closed with the singing of "America."

BAND CONCERT ON THE COMMON WEDNESDAY MORNING

TUESDAY.

Memorial Day came with a continuance of balmy sunshine, and was full of solemn purport, yet its festal programme for the children's entertainment gave Tuesday a place in the town's celebration. It was estimated that three thousand people took part in the day's activities.

MEMORIAL DAY EXERCISES.
TOWN HALL, CHELMSFORD.
TUESDAY MORNING, MAY 30, 1905,
In Connection with the 250th Anniversary of the Town.

1. MUSIC . . . . . Chelmsford Band
2. PRAYER . . . . . Rev. C. M. Merrill
3. SINGING—America, Beloved Land . . School Children
4. READING—The Old Sergeant . . . . Maj. Samuel L. Dutton
5. SINGING—E'er Fadeless be their Glory . School Children
6. ROLL CALL . . . . . .
7. MUSIC—The Vacant Chair . . . . Brass Quartette
8. MEMORIAL ADDRESS Hon. Samuel L. Powers of Newton
9. MUSIC—Hearts and Flowers . . . . . Band
10. SINGING—America . . . . . Audience

At nine o'clock, about 700 school children assembled at the school near the Town Hall and formed for marching. Seven special electric cars brought them from the north and east portions of the town. From the south and west they came also in good season. Then followed the Chelmsford Veterans, with James P. Emerson as Chief Marshal, and, headed by the Chelmsford Band, the procession moved through Central Square, and returned to the Littleton Street entrance of Forefathers' Burying Ground, where they decorated the graves of their comrades who served with them in the war for the Union. The graves of the heroes of the Revolution, numbering forty, were also decorated with flowers. The scene was one of unusual interest and significance.

The Ritual of the Grand Army of the Republic was read by Commander Hutchinson, assisted by Comrades of the Association.

At the close of the exercises in the Burying Ground, the procession re-formed and moved to the Common, where a hollow square was formed about the Monument to the Soldiers of the Revolution which was saluted, while the band played a dirge; after which the children were marched to the pavilion for their entertainment, and the remainder of the procession, with the band, went into the Town Hall, where, on the stage were seated the chief marshal, the commander of the veterans, the orator, the reader, the selectmen and the ministers of the town. The Chelmsford Band played appropriate music, and the singing by a chorus of selected children's voices from the schools was most creditable, and was under the direction of Miss Mary B. Raynes, Instructor of Music in the schools of Chelmsford. A telling feature of the programme was the reading by Major Dutton, who, with rich voice and deep feeling, made the story very real, prefacing it with some eloquent words of his own.

The address was made by Hon. Samuel L. Powers of Newton. He spoke as follows:

MR. POWERS' ADDRESS.

I regard myself very fortunate to be permitted to join you today in paying tribute to the service and heroic sacrifice of the American soldier.

Thus far the human race has not faltered in its devotion to the soldier. Each year travelers by the thousands continue to make pilgrimages to the battlefield of Marathon to do reverence to the Greek soldier who fell in battle more than two thousand years ago. Of the myriads of English worthies there are no names quite so dear to the Briton's heart as those of Marlborough, Nelson and Wellington. The French people refused to be consoled until the body of their greatest military genius and hero was removed from St. Helena and given a permanent resting place in the capital of the French nation. The American people will never cease to visit and revisit the tomb at Mount Vernon and that upon the banks of the Hudson, nor will they ever falter in their worship of the memory of the great leader of the armies of the American Revolution, and that great military genius of the Civil War.

I have recently noticed that certain foreign critics, possibly viewing with some jealousy the marvelous march of the American people in industrial progress, have taken occasion to characterize us as materialistic and lacking in those feelings of sentiment which they claim are common to the people of the older nations of Europe. To my mind nothing could be farther from the truth. There are no people more deeply imbued with patriotic sentiment than our own. Every epoch and crisis in our national history has become indelibly impressed upon the American mind. We make our pilgrimage to Plymouth that we may stand upon the shore and view the rock which nearly three centuries ago was pressed by Pilgrims' feet, seeking these shores in pursuit of religious and civil liberty. We visit Faneuil hall that we may stand within the walls which once echoed to the voices of Otis and Sam Adams, in protest against the encroachments of the Crown, and in behalf of political liberty for the colonists. We love to stand upon Lexington green and at Concord bridge, where the Revolutionary patriots shed their first blood in the great contest for independence; and we make the journey to Yorktown that we may stand upon the soil of the last battlefield of our forefathers' struggle for independence and liberty —where the sunlight of freedom finally dispelled the last cloud of doubt, and baptized a new-born nation.

The reading of our memorable Declaration of Independence, breathing forth as it does the spirit of defiance, and announcing the foundation principles of human liberty, continues to enthuse and inspire each new generation of our people. The impassioned speeches of Patrick Henry and Otis and Adams, the great Revolutionary orators, are to our school children just as inspiring as they were to those of the generation immediately after the close of the Revolution. Lincoln's speech on the battlefield of Gettysburg, in the beauty of its diction and charm of expression the equal of the famous orations of Pericles, will ever continue to inspire the youth of America with its sublime patriotism, and impress upon them the lasting obligations due to you and your comrades.

Today we look down a vista of two hundred and fifty years to the incorporation of this ancient town. Within that period is more than one hundred years of colonial history, and the entire life of the Republic. We go back to within a generation of the landing at Plymouth—to the scattered settlements along the coast—to the little clearing in the wilderness, the blockhouse, the fort, the rude and lonely cabin. The English race was then landing on the New England shore—men of courage, firm resolve and high purpose. They were here to conquer nature, to build their homes, to govern themselves, and to found a nation. They were of the best yeomanry of England, in whose veins coursed the blood of an ancestry as valiant and as brave as the world ever saw. To them the greatest blessing was civil and religious liberty and for that they were willing to undergo hard-

ship and endure privation. They brought with them their wives and children, for they had come to stay. They were prepared to defend their homes with their lives. They endured years of massacre and war; their breasts were filled with anxiety and frequently with sorrow; they saw their wives and children struck down by the tomahawk of the Indian, but never for one brief moment did their resolute hearts grow faint. The savage of the forests slowly but surely yielded to these men of iron will. The Puritan was a soldier—he possessed the great qualities requisite for the man of arms. His sires had fought at Naseby and Marston Moor. He belonged to an age of conflict and revolution, when men shed their blood for the advancement of political and moral reforms. The early settlers of Massachusetts, liberty-loving, God-fearing men, were nevertheless possessed of a military spirit, which was theirs both by inheritance and education.

With these Puritans was the beginning of the American soldier. His record extends over a period of nearly three centuries. Measured by both physical and moral qualities, he stands the best soldier the world has produced. The conditions under which he has lived have been most favorable to the development of the brave and efficient soldier; he has ever been under the inspiration of a land of freedom. His duty since the close of the French and Indian wars has been to serve the people, and not the king. During the first two centuries he fought for the defense of home and liberty. In the civil war he fought for the preservation of the Union which the soldier of the Revolution had created and defended with his life blood. In the Spanish war he was but asserting the great principles of freedom and humanity which had actuated the American people from the landing at Jamestown and Plymouth.

Between 1620 and 1640, some 26,000 English people landed on the Massachusetts shore. They were all Puritans—they belonged to a militant and masterful race. They were of a religious character, but of a revolutionary spirit. They were the product of nearly two centuries of agitation and revolution in the mother country. The currents of thought in England at the beginning of the 17th century were in the direction of greater religious and personal freedom, which they could not easily obtain in their native land. It was a great undertaking—it required courage and patience of the highest quality. They were undertaking the subjugation of a continent; they were planting the church in the wilderness; they were attempting the new experiment of local self-government. They were surrounded by common dangers and actuated by common hopes. Every man, if need be, must be a soldier. For more than a century the early settlers were involved in Indian wars. These surroundings and conditions developed in a wonderful degree.the martial spirit of the colonists. The men who gathered on Lexington green and at Concord bridge were

not trained soldiers, but they possessed, by inheritance at least, the essential qualities for conflict. At Bunker Hill they displayed qualities which excited the admiration of the British officers. Gen. Washington, on his way to take command of the Colonial army, learned of the battle of Bunker Hill and his first inquiry was, "Did the militia fight?" and when told how they had fought, he said, "Then the liberties of the country are safe."

That was a great struggle between the colonists and the king. Seven long years of defeats and victories, weary marches, hunger and suffering, from Lexington to Yorktown, finally ending with a glorious victory for freedom and independence. In that contest the American soldier established the great truth "that governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed." In that great war for independence this ancient town was loyally devoted to the cause. Her sons were at Bunker Hill, and followed the varying fortunes of the Revolution to its triumphant close. Today we would make renewed expressions of our deep obligations to the American soldier, who, more than a century ago, suffered and died for the great cause of civil liberty. "Of the thousands who shared the gloom and the glories of the seven sacred years, not one remains." Only the other day the last surviving soldier of the War of 1812 passed to his final reward. They are all gone, but the nation still lives and 80,000,000 of people, free and happy, remember with gratitude the heroes of the Revolution.

Well may we today remember the heroes of our second war with England, who fought for the rights of the American sailor and the freedom of the seas. Well may we remember the splendid army which carried our flag, within the memory of some present, triumphantly up the heights of Chapultepec.

What shall I say to you, veterans of the Civil war? That war resulted in a final victory to the armies of the Union. The Union was saved; not one star was effaced from the flag. The irrepressible conflict over slavery, which, for a half century, had agitated the country, was settled for all time, and human slavery, the bane of our national existence, was forever banished. All men stand free and equal under the sunlight of liberty. That war developed a spirit of magnanimity such as the world had never before witnessed. The victors breathed forth the spirit of forgiveness to the vanquished, and reached out a helping hand to the fallen foe. When Lee tendered his sword to Grant at Appomattox, the victorious general bade him return it to its scabbard, and permitted all the prisoners of war, upon taking the oath of allegiance, to return to their southern homes, with their horses and mules, saying that they would need them for the spring plowing. That war proved to the world the value and efficiency of the citizen soldier. I am speaking within bounds when I say that the army of the Union, at the close of the war, was, measured by efficiency, by courage and intelligence, the best the world has ever seen.

After the exercises, a substantial dinner was furnished to the Veterans with their wives and guests in the lower Town Hall. The catering was by Harris.

CHILDREN'S DAY PROGRAMME.

250TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CELEBRATION OF THE TOWN OF CHELMSFORD, MASSACHUSETTS.
1655–1905.

CHILDREN'S DAY PROGRAM, TUESDAY, MAY 30, 1905.

9 A. M. Children assemble at school house. March to Cemetery with Veterans.

10 A. M. Phonographic Concert in Pavilion, free to all. Mr. Chas. Nichols.

12 M. Salute the Flag.

12.15 P. M. Planting of Anniversary Tree on Common. Remarks by Rev. C. H. Ellis, Chairman School Committee. Singing, School Children.

12.30 P. M. Collation in Pavilion, free to school children.

1.15 P. M. Brief talk to the children, E. E. Spalding, Pasadena, Cal.

1.30 P. M. Entertainment in Pavilion, free to all, by Prof. F. O. Harrell, Magician and Entertainer.

2.30 P. M. Ball Game, Fletcher's Field. Contestants: Clubs from North, Centre and West Villages.

Sports on the Common. Standing Broad Jump, Running Broad Jump, Standing High Jump, Running High Jump, Putting Shot, 220 Yard Dash, 440 Yard Dash.

1st prize for each contest, $1.00; 2d prize for each contest, 50 cents.

For the smaller children: Three Legged Race, Sack Race, Potato Race, Doughnut Race. Suitable prizes for all.

The Hornbeam Hill Golf Club Links and Tennis Court will be open Tuesday afternoon.

Special Cars for Children will leave the Common, North Chelmsford, at 7.45 a. m.; Center Street, East Chelmsford, at 7.45 a. m. Returning from the Centre, leave S. W. Parkhurst's store at 5 p. m.

At ten o'clock the pavilion was filled with well behaved children waiting in pleasant anticipation of the entertainment provided for them. Mr. Charles Nichols fully satisfied them with selections on the Phonograph.

Just before noon the school children assembled in front of the Town Hall, about the lofty pole on which the flag was displayed at half mast—it being Memorial Day. A fresh breeze spread it out brightly against the blue sky, and at the last stroke of twelve, the flag was slowly raised to the top of the mast and hundreds of young people gave the salute. Then the band played "The Star Spangled Banner," and the children enthusiastically gave their yell: C–H–E–L–M–S–F–O–R–D ! Rah! Rah! Rah! Chelmsford!

Then came the planting of the tree—a young elm about twenty feet in height, straight and strong—at the entrance to the common near the flag pole. Miss Nora H. Brooke and Miss Anna C. Mackay supported the tree in place while Wm. E. Adams and Earl S. Lewis shoveled in the earth upon its roots. Mr. Frederick L. Kendall, Superintendent of Schools, made some appropriate remarks and the children sang "The Song of the Trees." Mr. Kendall then introduced Rev. C. H. Ellis, chairman of the School Committee, who made a short address on the significance of planting the tree. He said:

> You see how straight the elm is, which we have placed in the care of the warm earth, and how straight it rises toward the sky. The fibre of that tree is strong and compact, and it is emblematic of character. This is a symbol of peace and not of war. On the other side of the common is the monument, which recalls to us the fact that we took part in a great war. As we pass through this place each day, let us never fail to remember as we look upon these two symbols, one of war and one of peace, that the latter stands for growth and strength of character, and let us all try to grow upward and outward, true to ourselves, true to our land, true to our God.

Again the children were invited to the pavilion where dinner was provided for them in the shape of seven hundred boxes of food and the same number of boxes of ice cream. Mr. E. E. Spalding of Pasadena, Cal., then made an interesting

address to the children, who manifested their appreciation. Mr. Kendall then introduced the magician, who delighted their wondering minds with his tricks. The ball game at 2.30 o'clock was on Fletcher's field. After drawing lots for the first contest, the Centre and North teams crossed bats, the former wining 13 to 7. The Centre boys then played with the West Chelmsford team who, by a score of 2 runs to 1, secured the trophy, a beautiful pennant. Selectman James P. Dunigan was umpire.

The sports on the common began at 3 o'clock and lasted for an hour and a half. The committee in charge included J. E. Warren, chairman; R. W. Emerson, Ralph Adams, Karl M. Perham, Fred Snow, Arthur H. Sheldon, Jr., William H. Hall.

The events had the element of excitement as they were run off, and the winners won applause as well as prizes.

The prizes were taken in this manner:

Standing broad jump—Won by Benjamin O'Hara, $1; second, Leroy Dutton, 50 cents.

Running broad jump—Won by Michael Scollan, $1; second, Fred Casey, 50 cents.

Standing high jump—Won by Michael Scollan, $1; second, Elias DeLahaye, 50 cents.

Running high jump—Won by Michael Scollan, $1; second, Benjamin O'Hara, 50 cents.

Shot put—Won by Fred Casey, $1; second, Robert Russell, 50 cents.

220 yard dash—Won by Fred Casey, $1; second, Michael Scollan, 50 cents.

440 yard dash—Won by Elias DeLahaye, $1; second, Leroy Dutton, 50 cents.

Three-legged race—Won by Fred Carll and Henrik Paasche, mit and bat; second, Forrest Bullock and Elmer Smith.

Sack race—Won by Napoleon Fadittee, catcher's mit; second, William Shinkwin, ball.

Potato race—Won by Napoleon Fadittee, ball.

Doughnut race for girls—Won by Hannah Stewart, 50 cents; second, Lucy Comber, 25 cents.

The judges were Ralph W. Emerson and William H. Quigley. Souvenir badges were given to each prize winner.

THE OLD FOLK'S CONCERT.

The programme of the Old Folks' concert tells its own story, which was one of complete and enjoyable success, while the audience was large and appreciative.

"Should auld acquaintance be forgot?"

A Greate Concerte

by

Ye Olde Folkes,

at ye

Towne Hall,

in ye

Middle of ye Towne of Chelmsford,

Tuesday Night, Ye 30th day, 5th Month,

1905.

In connection with the 250th Anniversary of the Town.

YE PROGRAMME.

Ye First Parte.

1	Auld Lang Syne.	
2	Portland.	
3	New Jerusalem.	
4	Home Again.	Mixed Quartette
5	Reading—"Garfield's Ride."	H. C. Leavenworth
6	Jerusalem, My Glorious Home.	
7	Cousin Jedediah.	Mrs. J. F. Parker
8	Old Oaken Bucket.	Quartette

E. R. Wirt, A. M. Warren, W. C. Ward, E. B. Emerson.

Ye Second Parte.

9 Before Jehovah's Awful Throne.
10 David's Lamentation.
11 Reading—"The Medley." H. C. Leavenworth
12 Old Folks at Home. A. M. Warren
13 Turner
14 Soldiers' Farewell. Quartette
E. R. Wirt, A. M. Warren, W. C. Ward, E. B. Emerson.
15 Invitation.
16 America. Audience Joining

Ye Women Singers.—Martha Warren, Edith Wilson, Mabel Warren, Abby Ford, Louise Howard, Minnie Parkhurst, Alice Poore, Jessie Allen,(consort of ye singing master), Ethel Parker, Edith Parkhurst, Christina Robbins, Mabel Rice, Mildred Parkhurst, Alice Stearns, Rose Osterhout, Minnie Day, Frances Clark, Mary Raynes, Esther Douglass, Kate Knight, Carrie Bartlett, Emma George, Grace Perham, Emma Paasche, Ednah Parkhurst, Martha Fulton, Harriet Stewart, Carrie Ward, Helen Knowlton, Lottie Chapman, Zora Feindel.

Ye Men Singers.—Grandsir Arthur Allen, Arthur Warren, James Byam, Edward Emerson, William Ward, Edward Robbins, Albert Davis, Winthrop Parkhurst, Thomas Harmon, Herbert Rice, Edward Stearns, Samuel Hagerman, Emile Paignon, Ralph Adams, Mister Albert Earnshaw, Walter Perham, Harry Parkhurst, Warren Berry.

Ye Pipers and Fiddlers.—Doctor Amasa Howard, Fiddle; Willie Adams, Fiddle; Amos Adams, Clarionet; Thomas Parkhurst, Horn; Heady Parke (yeoman), Big Fiddle; Emma Parkhurst, Plays ye Piano.

Ye doors will be open at earlie candle lyte.

Ye fiddlers and pipers will tune up at a quarter before eight.

Grandsir Allen will start ye singing at eight of ye clock and will keep ye choir to tyme. He will wear his new clothes wh he will fetch up from ye Bay for ye greate occasion.

Ye Comtt desire that all heads of families direct their children to be orderlie in their going in and out of their seats, and that they may indulge in no unseemlie levitie to disturbe ye singers.

Because of ye well known infirmities of some of ye old folkes, ye tythingmen will see that no rum or flip be allowed in ye Towne House.

WEDNESDAY.

The last and crowning day of the Celebration was everything that could be desired in the way of propitious conditions.

The excursions were left to the preference and convenience of visitors. Those who desired, visited the historic places in different parts of the town, or moved again among the familiar scenes of former days.

The concert on the common by the Salem Cadet Band was, perhaps, the attraction of the morning, the crowd of some three thousand people giving their attention to that and the historical exhibit close at hand.

At one o'clock about six hundred and fifty persons sat down to dinner in the pavilion. The Salem Cadet Band furnished the music. The speakers' stand on the large platform was decorated with the national colors. At the centre of the table on the platform, on either side of the chairman, were the Hon. George A. Marden, assistant Treasurer of the United States at Boston, representing the National Government, and the Hon. John D. Long, former Governor of Massachusetts and ex-Secretary of the Navy, representing the Commonwealth. Others on the platform were the Hon. Levi S. Gould, chairman of the County Commissioners, representing Middlesex County; the Hon. Butler Ames, representing the Fifth Congressional District; Senator Edwards Cheney and ex-Senator Herbert E. Fletcher; Representatives Hayes, Westall, Hilton and Rolfe Bradbury; Mayor James B. Casey of Lowell, the Hon. S. P. Hadley, the Hon. Solon W. Stevens, District Attorney George A. Sanderson, Willard Parker, M. D., of New York, Edward E. Spalding, Esq., of Pasadena, Cal., Amos F. Adams, Esq., of Newton, donor of the Adams Library, Mr. A. E. Winship of Boston, Prof. Charles F. Emerson, Dean of Dartmouth College, Mr. Granville S. Webster of Boston, Rev. C. E. Fisher of Lowell, Lieutenant William J. Quigley, Messrs. Stewart Mackay,

G. A. Spalding and Wm. H. Shedd, the Selectmen of Chelmsford, the chairmen of the Selectmen of Westford, Dracut, Tyngsboro, Carlisle, Billerica and Dunstable.

At the other tables were many persons of note, among them being Mr. Wellington Pool, for many years clerk of the town of Wenham, whence came the first settlers of Chelmsford. Mrs. Hannah M. (Adams) Byam, aged 92, the oldest living native of Chelmsford, was escorted to the platform, where with her were the representatives of three later generations of her family.

The dinner was excellent and well served by thirty waiters, under the direction of the D. L. Page Co.

The sides of the tent were raised and a pleasant breeze freshened the atmosphere, while at intervals the Salem Cadet Band played selections which added much to the enjoyment of the occasion.

When all were seated, the chairman, welcoming the company, said:

Sons and Daughters of Chelmsford:-

It is my pleasant privilege to welcome you here with your invited guests on this closing day of our celebration. Many of you have returned from far to rejoice with us and to share in the congratulations and the conviviality of the hour, and honored men have come to grace our feast and give us flow of soul.

About us we can imagine the host of those who in the past have been the active citizens of this place, and can feel their presence near.

Heaven has indeed smiled upon our anniversary. This is the bridal day of earth and sky. It is fitting that we should acknowledge the goodness of God and ask His blessing on us now.

The pastor of the historic First Congregational Society, the Rev. A. D. K. Shurtleff, at the request of the chairman, asked the blessing.

When the dinner was over, the public were admitted to the tent. Nearly 2,000 listened to the speaking.

The chairman rose and said:

Four delightful commemoration days have almost passed into the history of our town. They have been filled with the fragrance of the past. What historical suggestiveness has been theirs! What memories have been awakened! What pleasant reunions with their glad greetings they have brought us! Our hearts have thrilled with pardonable pride as we have realized somewhat of the life of the past, of the character and sturdy worth of the men and women who have made Chelmsford what it is today, of the strong, upright lives of past generations, whom we claim for ancestors and predecessors. And we feel grateful also that these commemorative days have been, in the character of their proceedings, worthy of the people and events whose spirit they have caught.

The religious services in the churches and in the pavilion, which fitly opened our anniversary, were of a highly appropriate character. All of us are ready to accord just thanks and praise to the General Committee for the highly efficient manner in which all the arrangements have been made and carried out. On Monday we heard the able and suggestive address by the President of the day, and the easy and graceful address of welcome by the Chairman of the Selectmen, with the very interesting response by the Dean of Dartmouth College—and then the masterly historical address which followed. The delightful performance of the band has added much to our enjoyment.

As chairman of the committee on arrangement of the Historical Exhibit, I desire to give the credit of that most interesting and valuable feature of the anniversary to those who collected and arranged the articles; for, with the exception of a few general directions, I purposely refrained from suggestions, knowing that the taste and judgment of the other members of the committee were at least equal to my own. It has been a great pleasure to come into such congenial and harmonious relations with them. The exhibit has been praised on all sides as exceptionally fine.

The reception to home comers and the Memorial Day exercises, the address and the fine singing of the children were most creditable. The concert in the evening and the excursions have given pleasure to all. Everything has been conducted on a high plane of excellence. The press should be mentioned, especially the Lowell Citizen, as having given good reports of the proceedings. And as we still linger here to listen to those who are to speak to us this afternoon, we must first read some regrets.

Cordial congratulations with regrets from the President of the United States were read by the toastmaster, also from the Governor and Lieutenant-Governor, and from Ex-Governors Bates, Crane and Brackett, and others.

He also referred to the numerous letters received from old Chelmsford residents, in various parts of the country, from Maine to Oregon, expressing their strong affection for the old town, and deep regret that they could not be present. Interesting extracts were read from a few of these.

LETTER FROM THE MAYOR OF CHELMSFORD, ESSEX, ENGLAND.

MAYNETREES, CHELMSFORD, 26 April, 1905.

DEAR SIR:

I have been hoping that I should be able to accept your very kind invitation to the celebration of the Quarter Millennial Anniversary of the Incorporation of your Town. Alas! the distance and time form an impassable barrier. It is very kind of you to offer hospitality of which, unfortunately, I cannot possibly avail myself. Allow me to wish the celebration every success. We shall think of you, and offer heartiest greetings on the four appointed days. I will send over to you, as you request, one or more specimens of our native trees. With repeated thanks and assurance of the peculiar interest which we take in your prosperity,

Very truly yours,

WALTER PAYNE GEPP, Mayor.

WALTER PERHAM, ESQ., Chairman of Selectmen,
Chelmsford, Massachusetts.

LETTER FROM THE RECTOR OF CHELMSFORD.

CHELMSFORD, May 15.

DEAR MR. WATERS:

May I write to thank you for your very kind letter. I, indeed, wish that it were possible for some one from the old home to be with you at your commemoration; but I fear that it is not possible. Perhaps the old blood is not so enterprising as the new, but it is very difficult to leave the work here for so long a time as a visit to Massachusetts implies. May I, as Rector of Chelmsford in the old Country, offer *all* who are taking part in your Commemoration, the very best wishes. We shall think of you, and trust that, as such a Commemoration must be a link between

all, so it may be a help on to further progress, social, moral, religious. I shall like very much to see a paper of your arrangements as it will enable me to put a short account in our Magazine, which will help to bring it to the notice of our people generally. I am sending one or two specimen photos in this envelope. This will, I hope, give a slight idea of the old town.

Yours sincerely,

H. A. Lake,
Rector of Chelmsford, England.
Honorary Canon of St. Albans.

The Rev. Wilson Waters,
Chelmsford, Massachusetts, U. S. A.

The chairman also read two cablegrams, received from Mayor Gepp to Mr. Walter Perham, "Best Wishes"; and from the Rev. Henry A. Lake to the Rev. Wilson Waters, "Congratulations."

Much of the speaking which followed was in the lighter vein, and there was some verbal sharp-shooting, especially between the toastmaster, Mr. Marden, and Governor Long, which the audience evidently enjoyed; but the *bons mots*, the sallies of wit, and pleasant anecdotes which drew forth laughter and applause cannot well be reproduced, nor can justice be done to the speakers. What is here given may serve, however, to refresh the memory of those who had the pleasure of hearing them.

The Hon. George A. Marden was the first gentleman introduced, and with his characteristic wit and humor responded to the toast, "The National Government." He claimed to be present by right of descent, having had an ancestor named Chamberlain who was born in Chelmsford, but who moved to Billerica. "He is sorry for it now; but he partly made up for it by going to Concord." Mr. Marden then gave the substance of an alleged wireless message from President Roosevelt, received on Robin's Hill, in which he reviewed about all of the great public questions supposed to be agitating the mind of the President, and settled them to the amused satisfaction of

himself and the audience. In the matter of ships that will be needed at the Isthmus, it was reported that the problem had been solved by the Russians, who were going to give us a number of vessels, as they had no use for them. In regard to the railroad rate question, that would be settled—at any rate. "But I want to say," he reported of the President, "that I think we can trust it to the Chelmsford people to guard the all-important question of race suicide."

Mr. Marden had claimed that he was badly treated by the chairman, who, he said, had shifted him about on the programme until finally he had settled him in first place, because he could get no one else to take that position. The chairman retaliated by saying that he was glad that Mr. Marden was settled at last, and by relating an anecdote of a congressman whose colleague said he was the only man he knew who could set his mouth a working and then go away and leave it for an hour. "But, of course," he said, "this cannot refer to Mr. Marden, because, as you have noticed, when he sets his mouth a going, he has to stand right behind it all the time.

"I did not wish to put a time limit on the representative of the National Government, but as there is a long list of speakers, and some of them are long-winded, I will ask them to occupy about ten minutes each. When I went with Mr. Bartlett to invite Governor Douglas to the banquet, he replied, 'I am a shoemaker and not a speechmaker.' We all admire the excellent qualities of the Governor and his shoes, and it is a good thing to have such a man at the head of the Commonwealth in these strenuous times, which try men's soles. I regret that he cannot be here to speak.

"When we have a name given with two or three X's attached to it, we at once conclude that it carries with it Ex-traordinary Ex-cellence. We have with us today an Ex-Secretary of the Navy, who is also an Ex-Governor, a man who is not only able, but who has actually stood in Governor Douglas' shoes. I introduce to you His Ex-Excellency, John D. Long, who will speak for the Commonwealth."

Governor Long said it was not fair to limit the speakers to ten minutes when the toastmaster himself had already talked thirteen and a half minutes. "He is mistaken, I have never stood in Governor Douglas' shoes. I buy mine at ——'s on —— Street, and I expect to get a discount on the next pair, in consideration of this notice.

"I regret that Governor Douglas is not present. He has conducted himself in a manner to command favorable attention while performing the duties of his office. A chief magistracy held with so much good sense and character, has commended itself to the people of this state. I have no hesitation in saying this, although I speak as a Republican, especially inasmuch as Governor Douglas has announced that he will not again be a candidate for the office of Governor. I regret also that the duties of his office prevent Lieutenant-Governor Guild being present. It is too bad that the Governor cannot be here to speak for himself. My position is like that of the comrade in the ranks, who was perhaps less distinguished than the rest, the substitute who went to war and received a bounty. I am a substitute for the State Executive today, but I only get my dinner out of it.

I once taught school in your beautiful neighboring town of Westford, which was formerly a part of Chelmsford. When the movement was made to set off Westford as a separate town, it was voted in town meeting that the people of that part of Chelmsford were not competent to govern themselves. I feel at home in Chelmsford, because some of her able sons, J. Adams Bartlett, Henry S. Perham, Prof. Charles F. Emerson, and others present here today, were pupils of mine in Westford Academy. The success which these men have met in life has been due to the tuition I gave them.

"You are the men and women who represent the character of Massachusetts. You do well to celebrate your two hundred and fiftieth anniversary, for you celebrate the foundation of the nation. All honor to our forefathers who founded the old

towns of this Commonwealth. They were leaders in all that was best in any community. All other civilizations have developed from conditions of barbarism. It is singular that our founders began at the summit. They began with the school, the church, the militia and the home, four corner-stones. They had the same patriotism, the same love, the same devotion to their young, the same loyalty to principle that characterizes the church of our fathers. We shall do well to keep these principles. If the men of the towns continue in the ways of the fathers, they will have great influence in promoting the welfare of the state and nation."

The Hon. Levi S. Gould was introduced, and spoke for "Middlesex County." He said in part:

The date "1630" on the county seal refers rather to the arrival of Gov. Winthrop with the new charter, than to the incorporation of the county, which was not accomplished until May 10th, 1643. At that time, Charlestown, Cambridge, Watertown, Sudbury, Concord, Woburn, Medford and Lynn Village (later on Reading) constituted the entire county, with a wilderness stretching to the westward far beyond the knowledge of man. Those five original towns have increased to 43 towns and eleven cities, teeming with a population of 600,000 souls, unexcelled in intelligence, industry, sobriety, patriotism and the practice of the arts. For the inspiration which has developed such stupendous results, we must turn to the moral and religious sentiments of the early fathers.

Whatever may have been accomplished in the matter of local self-government by the settlers at Jamestown and the Pilgrim fathers at Plymouth, at an earlier date, pales into insignificance as factors in the establishment of liberty through the principles of universal suffrage, when compared with that first meeting, August 23, 1630, in the cabin of the governor's ship "Arabella" in Charlestown harbor, out of which was evolved, and established a few weeks later, the general court of the commonwealth, which to this day has continued as the palladium of the rights of all the people and a beacon light of liberty throughout the land. In all the preliminaries attending the establishment of a permanent form of government by Gov. Winthrop and the company of Puritans associated with him the arena was principally in Middlesex county, and the actors therein were largely her citizens.

By the infinite wisdom of Almighty God, these men, with others who followed, were directed to these rugged and inhospitable shores, to erect in ancient Middlesex, through the utmost extremity of faith and long suffering, a commonwealth wherein the life that led to rigid purity in thought and action was the essential element. Should we wonder, then, that they adopted as the groundwork of civil policy, "that none should be admitted to the freedom of the body politic but such as were church members?" They endeavored to pattern their humble lives after the example of him who died on Calvary, but the foundations of the law they executed, rested upon the divine message which thundered from Sinai.

John Quincy Adams, the sixth president of the United States, once said, "I would rather have one drop of Puritan blood in my veins than all the blood which ever flowed in the veins of kings and princes. Those only deserve to be remembered by posterity who treasure up the history of their ancestors."

In closing, I give, as a sentiment, Middlesex county—famous in history, song and story, as the birthplace of American independence; renowned alike for the bravery and hardihood of those who established and defended her settlements as outposts of civilization, and later on, for the heroism of those sturdy yeomen and immortal women who kindled fires of patriotism which swept across the seas to illumine and enlighten the oppressed and benighted of other lands. True to her ancient record, may she ever stand, a center of culture and refinement, where liberty, restrained by the dictates of civil and religious law, shall continue as the basis of rational freedom.

Congressman Butler Ames made an interesting speech, in which he recalled the fact that he could claim a descent from Chelmsford through Sergeant Richard Hildreth. He spoke at some length on the race characteristics of those born in the tropics and in the temperate zones and said that the type of New England character found in Chelmsford had the stern virtues produced by hard toil in the past.

It is a matter of regret that it is impossible to give a more extended report of his speech.

Mayor James B. Casey responded to the toast "The City of Lowell:"

As chief executive of the city of Lowell, it affords me great pleasure to extend, on behalf of the citizens of Lowell, congratulations to the town of Chelmsford on this memorable occasion. Chelmsford is our neighbor,

and between us there is that friendly feeling which all neighbors should have. But there is a closer and a stronger bond of union between the communities—a family tie: for Lowell is the offspring of Chelmsford, a worthy child of a worthy parent. Though the infant has grown big and powerful, occupying a high place in the industrial world, still she remembers her young days—the days when she was dependent upon the town of Chelmsford.

Celebrating a 250th anniversary is something to boast of. You made a good beginning on Sunday when you opened your exercises with a grand union service in which all the Churches of the town participated. Differences of creed and doctrine were forgotten, and a striking object lesson of religious tolerance was exemplified—an ideal illustration of the harmony which should exist among all believers in God.

The Church was entitled to open the observance, because the Church is the most important factor for good in any community.

His Honor then spoke eloquently of the history of Chelmsford in Colonial times, in the Revolution and in the Civil War, of the bravery and pluck of her citizens, of their hardships in the early days, their honest, God-fearing lives, and concluded with some very complimentary remarks upon the beautiful and picturesque appearance of the town, and the fine character of its inhabitants.

Citizens of Chelmsford, the people of Lowell are proud of you; proud that we once were of you; we congratulate you, and pray that your future will be as brilliant, as glorious, as your first 250 years.

The toastmaster here related a story of some men who were traversing the Maine forests and came upon a cabin with the sign, "Half-way House" over the door. They found an old hunter within, and asked him the meaning of the sign. "Well," he said, "it isn't half-way from anywhere that I know of, but you see there is a lot of these city fellows wandering around here with their guns, and don't know where they're a-goin' to, and it's a sort of consolation to them to know they've got half way there." "So don't be discouraged, my friends, I don't know just where we're going, but we are about half way through the list of speakers."

Mr. Edward E. Spalding of Pasadena, Cal., a former resident of the town, then spoke for Chelmsford, and said that Chelmsford was a good town to go from. When you get away

the perspective lends enchantment to the view. "I hope we have the same energy and enterprise and the same spirit that our fathers had," said he. "Some say that the spirit has deteriorated, but if it has here, I want you to understand that Chelmsford blood has gone into every part of the United States. If, then, there is less of it here, there is more of it in New Orleans, more of it in California, and it will be the leaven to permeate the entire mass."

Mr. Spalding paid a high tribute to the character and memory of Dr. Willard Parker and his mother, as representative of Chelmsford people of other days.

Dr. Willard Parker of New York, son of the above mentioned celebrated New York physician, on being introduced said:

Your Reverence and Ladies and Gentlemen:—

"Laugh, and the World laughs with you; weep, and you weep alone."

I rejoice with you cordially on this day of gladness, but when I recall that, on all my previous visits to Chelmsford, my father, your fellow-townsman, Dr. Willard Parker, was with me; when I think how thoroughly happy he would have been today, I cannot but feel sad that I am here, not with him, but to speak in his place.

I am touched, deeply touched, by the graceful and lovely tribute just paid by Mr. Spalding. Yesterday we were strangers; today I count myself honored to be numbered among his friends, and, in behalf of my sisters and myself, I want sincerely to thank him.

When Mr. Waters asked me to "say something," he suggested (he is, I believe, a bachelor), that I say (I am not a bachelor) something "to the ladies." I will try to do so, later on, following out, however, the spirit of Mr. Spalding's speech. I think that one or two personal anecdotes of my father may, from me, not be amiss.

He was essentially a self-made man, but, in his struggles for success, maintained a singularly selfless regard for others' feelings, others' rights. His mother, Hannah Clark, sympathized with and helped him in his earlier struggles for an education. His love for her until her death, at more than four-score years, was peculiarly strong and tender.

Every Sunday while studying in Cambridge, he tried to spend at his home with her. The fare on the canal was fifty cents; to save this, he usually walked both ways.

His mother gave him, when he went to college, his linen and bedclothes; he had to buy, out of his savings from teaching, his furniture. He bought in Boston, a cot—second hand—for two dollars and a half, but found that it would cost an equal amount to have it carted out to Harvard; he waited until the cool of evening, and carried it out on his shoulders. This was the keynote of his character and temperament, the factor that brought success. Later, in speaking of this experience, he used to say that before he reached the college, the cot got awfully heavy.

His death in his 84th year was a fit ending of a life such as was his; the work was finished, not interrupted; he lived to see most of its achievement. After the harvest, he was at rest. Again, I thank Mr. Spalding for the tribute paid to his memory today.

Now, a few words for "The Ladies," this being one of the rare occasions when circumstances prevent their speaking for themselves.

My experience at Chelmsford has been most pleasant.

In a memorial window in a church near my home, is the text, "I was a stranger, and ye took me in," The widow, who gave it as a tribute to her husband, failed to recognize the fact that, in life, he had been somewhat sharp in business methods; others did—and smiled. Here, I have been "taken in" by a most attractive hostess, to a lovely home. My memories of Chelmsford will be always bright and pleasant.

Sir Walter Scott wrote:

> "Oh Woman, in our hours of ease,
> Uncertain, coy, and hard to please;
> When pain and anguish wring the brow,
> A ministering angel, thou."

Robert Burns, a man of singular antitheses of character, not always a model of propriety, wrote:

> "He tried his 'prentice hand on man,
> And then he made the lasses, oh!"

In writing this, he perhaps anticipated the Yankee love for 'lasses and water.

Harriet Beecher Stowe, than whom no more tender, lovely writer ever pictured our old New England life, in "Old Town Folks," tells of a spinster aunt giving her views on obedience in, and the discipline of, children, as suggested by the mischief of an orphan nephew. The aged grandmother interrupts with, "Fiddlesticks, what a boy of that age wants is *mothering*."

In my early school days, one of my school-fellows read, one Friday, a composition on "Mother, Home and Heaven." The week following, we boys, a hundred or more, attended the funeral of that yearning, motherless boy—motherless no longer.

After all, is not woman's highest, loveliest, earthly mission summed up in the Scriptural quotation, " As one whom his mother comforteth."

Friends, I again thank you for the honor you have paid me, the courtesy you have shown—God bless you all—good bye.

The toastmaster next introduced the Hon. Solon W. Stevens, president of the Lowell Historical Society, who, after humorously alluding to himself as a descendant of Chelmsford from the fact that he was born in Lowell, and Lowell was once a part of Chelmsford, spoke in an eloquent and interesting manner of Lowell as a city which is prosperous, not alone on account of its varied business and manufacturing interests, but because of its well established public school system, and because it had endeavored to inculcate and to cultivate the principles and practice of art and music among its children and its citizens. He alluded to its remarkable growth as a town from its incorporation in 1826, and to its rapid development as a city from the date of its incorporation as a city in 1836. In this connection he mentioned once hearing Mr. Edward Everett apply to Lowell a quotation from Milton's poem, when he described it as a city which like "the lion, had sprung from the ground."

It has always been the aim of the citizens of Lowell, the speaker said, to foster the arts which like music, tend to soften the asperities of life, and which appeal to the higher nature, thus exemplifying, in some degree, the saying of a distinguished writer, "take care of the beautiful, and the useful will take care of itself."

Senator Fletcher responded for the town of Westford.

Mr. Toastmaster, Neighbors and Friends:—

It gives me much pleasure to join with you in celebrating this important day in the history of Chelmsford, and representing Westford, the elder daughter of Chelmsford. I bring to you greetings, and best wishes for the continuance of those friendly and harmonious relations which have existed since the Great and General Court gave to us a separate existence as a town.

In the old days, there was but one meeting house in the town, and the people of the westerly part were obliged to travel to Chelmsford to attend church. The way was long and attended with difficulty and danger, in consequence of which there arose a demand for a church on Westford Hill, which was denied, and a controversy started which resulted in a division—a new town with its own meeting house.

A week since, the land was suffering for want of rain; the grass withered, the leaves drooped, clouds of dust filled the air, and all nature seemed strained and out of adjustment.

During the night we were awakened by the crash of thunder to witness a mighty battle in the heavens, and soon there followed the peaceful and refreshing rain, bringing new life to every living thing.

May we not say that, as out of the strife in the heavens there came peace to earth, so, out of the strife over church matters in the old days, came the peace and harmony which have existed between these two towns these many generations.

The toastmaster said there was once a home-comer who was inquiring about his old acquaintances, among whom was John Smith, a slow, sleepy fellow, and he asked, "How is my old neighbor, John Smith, getting on? Is he alive yet?" And they said, "No, not yet."

"Now we want to hear from the town of Billerica. We have had a celebration; Billerica has not. Still Billerica and Chelmsford are twins, born on the same day. We all admire the topographical and architectural beauties of our neighbor, who sends to us today Mr. Charles H. Kohlrausch, Jr., chairman of the selectmen of Billerica." Mr. Kohlrausch, said:

Mr. Toastmaster and Townspeople of Chelmsford:—

I rise to offer no apology for Billerica. She needs none; her past has been an honorable one, and her future is liable to be such. I never knew of any one who ever resided within her borders, who desired to go elsewhere, except it be the person alluded to by Mr. Marden. As the official representative of the good old Town of Billerica, I bring you her congratulations on this, Chelmsford's 250th birthday. Twins they were at their birth, together they have journeyed through the years, and have made for themselves honorable places in the noble sisterhood of towns of Middlesex, and of the grand old Commonwealth of Massachusetts. And so, even as Chelmsford and Billericay, the ancient towns of the mother country, have, side by side, come down the centuries together, so may

INTERIOR OF THE PAVILION

BEGINNING OF THE BANQUET

our Chelmsford and Billerica go down the pathway of time hand in hand with no difference ever arising between them, save that noble contention of which best can do the work assigned her. Chelmsford, Billerica greets you!

Mr. A. E. Winship made an address on "Our Educational Interests," which was able and interesting, but of which no report could be obtained.

The speaking occupied about two hours. The spirit pervading the whole occasion was so delightful, and the banquet had been so like a love-feast, that, at the close of the speaking, the chairman rose and pronounced a blessing upon the assembled company, who seemed to be expecting it.

The bells were rung at sundown.

Concert and Reception.

Members of the general committee with their wives, held a reception in the Town Hall, from eight until ten o'clock, during which the orchestra gave a number of concert selections. Those who received were Mr. and Mrs. J. Adams Bartlett, Mr. and Mrs. Henry S. Perham, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph E. Warren, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur H. Sheldon, Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Parkhurst, and Mr. Erastus A. Bartlett.

The Anniversary Ball.

The closing scene of the celebration was one of beauty and festivity. The interior of the Town Hall was transformed into a bower of delicate and artistic decoration. It was evidently the purpose of those who took part in the occasion to make it a success, and thus bring the Celebration to a happy termination. The evening was perfect, the attendance large, and the Salem Cadet Orchestra all that could be desired.

Shortly after ten o'clock the grand march was played by the orchestra, and was led by the committee and their ladies. There were about forty couples in the march and a large number of spectators in the gallery and other parts of the hall, including many of the prominent men and women who had taken part in the previous events of the celebration.

The dancing continued until two o'clock, the restaurant remaining open for the benefit of the dancers. The order of dances was daintily printed and enclosed in a cover bearing an appropriate design significant of home-coming and hospitality.

ANNIVERSARY BALL.

CHELMSFORD, MASS., MAY 31, 1905.

Music: Salem Cadet Orchestra.

ORDER OF DANCES.

1	MARCH AND WALTZ	Loveland
2	SCHOTTISCHE	O. B. Joyful
3	QUADRILLE	Legion of Honor
4	TWO STEP	Laces and Graces
5	VIRGINIA REEL	Favorite
6	WALTZ	In the Shade of the Old Apple Tree
7	QUADRILLE	Merry Midnighters
8	TWO STEP	Bunker Hill
9	SCHOTTISCHE	Under the Banana Tree
10	LADY WASHINGTON'S REEL	

INTERMISSION.

11	TWO STEP	2nd Reg't Conn.
12	WALTZ QUADRILLE	Yours Always
13	GALOP	A Bit o' Blarney
14	PORTLAND FANCY	In the Good Old Style
15	WALTZ	Sweet Adeline
16	LANCIERS	Gaiety
17	TWO STEP	Yankee Grit
18	SCHOTTISCHE	Shame on You
19	TWO STEP	Little Johnny Jones
20	WALTZ	A Dream of Paradise

EXTRAS

1..... 2.....

General Manager, J. ADAMS BARTLETT
Floor Director, HARRY L. PARKHURST
Aids, CHAS. E. BARTLETT, WM. A. INGHAM, PAUL DUTTON, JOHN C. VARNEY, JOHN F. SHAW, WM. H. SHEDD, JOSEPH E. MARSHALL JOHN B. EMERSON.

HISTORIC HOUSES AND SITES.

Site of Wm. Fletcher house—1654—first town meeting.
Site of first school house—1718.
Site of Col. Samson Stoddard house.
Chelmsford Classical school—1825.
Rev. Hezekiah Packard house.
Parsonage, Rev. Ebenezer Bridge; Rev. Samson Stoddard.
Site of Lieutenant Col. Moses Parker house—1775.
Site of North school house—1720.
Site of Emerson homestead—Dr. Anthony Emery.
Site of Dr. Rufus Wyman house—1805-1818.
Site of first sawmill—1656.
"South Row" school house—1801.
South End school house—1753.
Home of Dr. Willard Parker, L L D.
Site of First Baptist meeting house —1772.
Site of old match shop—1835.
Hayward Garrison house.
Jonathan Spalding house—1761.
Site of second sawmill—1669.
Site of Daniel Waldo sawmill—1695.
Captain William Adams house—1794.
Old Tavern stand.
Site of Garrison house—1675.
Site of Joseph Spalding house—1775.
Warren homestead—1703-1888.
Col. Simeon Spaulding house—1775.
Perham Farm, settled 1664. Nine generations.

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